Hafa Adai!

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CUC genset plan raises red flags

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

A Commonwealth Utilities Corp. plan to buy a diesel generator is raising red flags for two minority lawmakers.

Minority leader Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) and Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) are blasting the CUC board's action, saying the whole process did not go through proper bidding.

Propst obtained a letter by CUC executive director Gary Camacho to Amelia R. Toelkes, president of General Pacific Ser-

See CUC on Page 4

Airport runway lights delayed

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Unexpectedly slow shipping is delaying the arrival of all the runway lights needed for the Saipan airport, according to Commonwealth Ports Authority board member Barrie Toves.

Toves, who is the Airport Facilities Committee chairman, told

See AIRPORT on Page 4

Florist burglarized 4 times

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Police release video footages of 3 suspects

The flower shop at the Cabrera Center in Garapan, Design Florist, has been burglarized at least four times since last November, believed to be perpetrated by the same group of persons.

An employee told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that Design Florist has been burglarized "like every two weeks" since the third week of November 2016, yet no one has been arrested.

NMI Crime Stoppers coordinator Jason Tarkong yesterday provided footage from a surveillance camera that showed three men, with their faces covered, burglarizing Design Florist last Jan. 29.

Tarkong said the three suspects appear to be in their early twenties or less in age.

He described one suspect as medium-built and wearing a hooded sweater, a pair of short

See FLORIST on Page 4

WOMEN'S SUMMIT

Participants in the 4th Annual CNMI Women's Summit pose for a group photo at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe yesterday. Those who attended included Rota delegates, board members of the CNMI Women's Association, high school students, guest panelists from the Commonwealth and Guam, and many more who advocates the empowerment of women.

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

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NATION
The push to end homelessness among veterans would suffer.

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WORLD
The U.S.-led coalition is not taking adequate precautions to prevent civilian deathsin Mosul.

PAGE 17

LIFE & STYLE
The statue of a young girl will keep staring down the "Charging Bull" through February.

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Local

‘NMI must be open to other revenue sources’

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson believes this is the right time for the CNMI to open up to other revenue sources and study the possibility of new attractions for tourists to come to the islands.

Larson cited the example of MP Holdings, one of the latest business ventures on Saipan, which kicked off its operation last week with its Saipan Vegas Golf Resort & Slot Club e-gaming facility.

The company also took over the operations of the Saipan Country Club, one of the first golf courses in the CNMI. MP Holdings turned the building where the former Fashion Outlet was located into an e-gaming facility.

“The administration and Finance welcome every new source of revenue for the government. Investments like this provide more cash flow and it improves our position in delivering basic services to the people,” said Larson.

“We have to look at all areas where we can earn revenue. We’ve already learned from prior experience, don’t put all your eggs in one basket, [so] we must not put all our trust in only one industry.”

She added that the government should explore every opportunity and the kind of economic activity where it would gain something.

Saipan Vegas would be paying taxes under the e-gaming category, which is separate from the ones collected from casino gaming.

“They [casino gaming and e-gaming] have their own sets of rules and regulations. But they are somewhat similar. [MP Holdings] would pay their taxes just like the other [businesses in the CNMI],” said Larson.

Standard business revenue, wages and salaries for their employees, and jackpot gaming are the taxes that would be collected from the new business. They would also pay the hotel occupancy tax once their 50-room lodging opens this June.

Alternative attraction

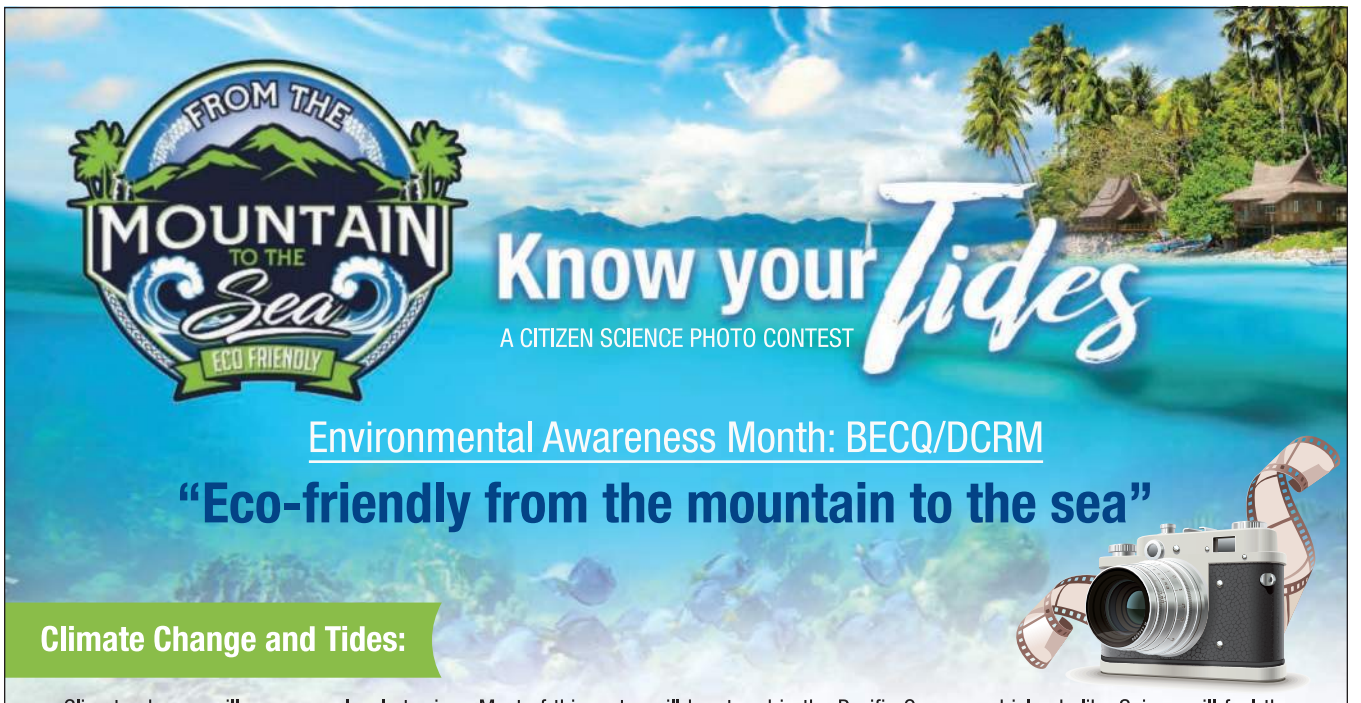
Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog also welcomed the new attraction and the hotel that’s being developed. MP Holdings is building a 50-room hotel using pre-fabricated materials like 20-foot containers in the 200,000 square-meter property near McDonald’s on Middle Road.

“Everything is built in, this is the good thing with this type of infrastructure especially now that we have a bit of shortage in laborers and [construction] materials. It is just a matter of ensuring the connectivity for the function and amenities for every room.”

“One of our concerns in the sewage system. We want it to be not a health hazard for the community and their guests.”

The nine-hole golf course, e-gaming facility, and the soon-to-open hotel are part of MP Holdings’ mini-integrated resort development. They plan to add another 50 rooms, and are also looking into expanding the golf course and other amenities.

The overall cost of MP Holdings’ development is $2 million. They are looking to build a driving range and putting greens, while thinking of adding nine more holes at the golf course but it depends if they could acquire more land.



Climate Change and Tides:

Climate change will cause sea levels to rise. Most of this water will be stored in the Pacific Ocean, and islands like Saipan will feel the effects. In the future high tides will come more landward than they currently do. Future low tides might start where today’s high tides stop.

We can document this long term change through photographs and tide charts. Each of these serves as a record of tidal change. Documenting high tides now can help us know how future sea level rise might affect us.

Photographs

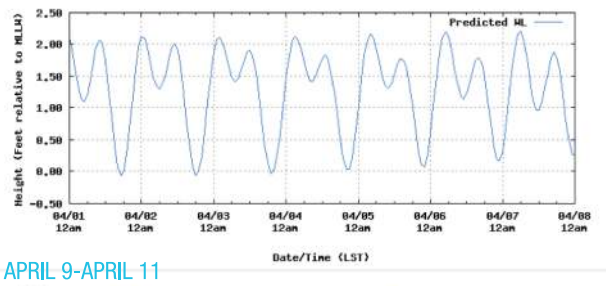
Please upload your photo of high tide or low tide from April 1—April 9 for Environmental Awareness Month.
Photographing tides is one way to help planners and natural resource managers prepare for the impacts of climate change. Ideally, you’ll want your image to capture the highest water line or the lowest water line. However, all images and associated data are helpful for the objectives of the Citizen Science project.

Take your photo facing parallel to the shoreline. If available, include some sort of feature in your picture – wall, bunkers, docks, or rocks make good markers.

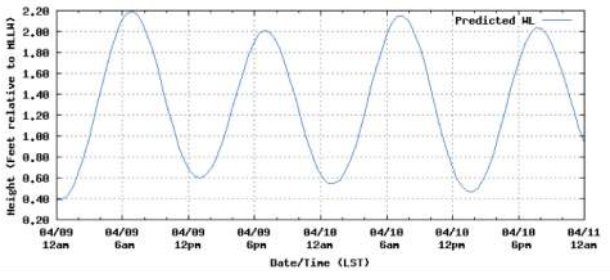
How these photos are used:

1. Document current tidal change in coastal areas
2. Visualize the impacts of future sea level rise in the community
3. Ground-truth and validate models by comparing predictions with reality.
4. Serve as a living record of change for future generations

APRIL 1-APRIL 8



APRIL 9-APRIL 11



NOAA Tide Charts: Tanapag Harbor, Saipan Island, Station ID 163327

Rules

Open contest dates are: April 1 – April 9, 2017

Submit:
All photos must be uploaded by 12:00 am April 10, 2017.
Facebook, Instagram, twitter.
Label: #KnowYourTides#DCRM#EAM
Facebook, Instagram, twitter

Caption: Date, Time, Location, Your Name, HighTide/Lowtide
** All tides must be accurately marked to win.

Categories:
General Public, 9-12 grade, 6-8th grade.
General Public –1st, 2nd, 3rd, Most likes
9-12 grade: 1st, Most Likes
6-8 grade: 1st, Most likes

Judges: Chelu Photography, BECQ

Prizes: A take home 12x18 canvas print of your photo
Your photo displayed at BECQ/DCRM events
on a 3” x 4” canvas

FOR FILING FRIVOLOUS APPEAL

High court sanctions employer, lawyer

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Supreme Court has sanctioned an employer and its counsel for filing “an entirely frivolous appeal” in connection with the CNMI Department of Labor’s order that awarded $134,096 to some alien workers.

“The appeal…is unintelligible,” according to the high court opinion penned by Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro and concurred by associate justices John A. Manglona and Perry B. Inos.

The justices sanctioned Feng Hua Enterprise Inc. and its counsel, Robert H. Myers Jr., by requiring them to pay the complainants’ attorney fees and costs.

The justices said they are unable to properly consider the actual merits of the case.

“Accordingly, we find the appeal entirely frivolous, and under Rule 38, impose sanctions against Feng

Hua and its counsel jointly and severally,” they said.

The justices noted that Myers has a prior history of filing frivolous or untimely briefs with the high court.

According to court records, Labor awarded $134,096 to six laborers who’ve filed a complaint against Feng Hua Enterprise Inc. in 2008.

In 2009, Feng Hua filed a petition with the Superior Court for judicial review of the Labor order. In August 2012, the trial court held a status conference ordering Feng Hua to file its opening brief. Feng Hua did not comply.

In 2013, the complainants, through Joe Hill, moved to dismiss Feng Hua’s petition for failure to prosecute. About 255 days after the trial court deadline, Feng Hua filed its opening brief, indicating the brief was submitted on Sept. 24, 2014, but the court did not receive it due to an error in the electronic filing system. Feng Hua did not produce any evidence to substantiate its claim.

The trial court granted the complainants’ motion to dismiss the petition for failure to prosecute. Feng Hua appealed

See HIGH on Page 4

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Weintraub: Torres' declaration meant to harass, humiliate

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Assistant attorney general Betsy Weintraub has accused defense lawyer Victorino Torres of filing a declaration that was intended to harass and humiliate her, not just before the Superior Court, but before the community.

Weintraub was referring to the declaration filed in court in which Torres took issue with Weintraub's alleged use of the word c___r to refer to him.

Torres, who is counsel for a man accused of punching another at a Garapan bar, earlier said that Weintraub referred him as a "c__r."

Weintraub said that Torres shouldn't have raised the issue with Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho as it was a private conversation that he had overheard.

She said it was a personal matter that Torres should have either ignored or addressed with her directly. After bringing it to Camacho's attention, he should have let the matter go, she said. Instead, Weintraub said, Torres filed an inflammatory declaration, repeatedly referencing her by name.

She said that Torres failed to include the reason why she was upset.

Weintraub said she had just learned that, while she was outside the courtroom, Torres had made "unsolicited, condescending, and misogynistic *ex parte* statements" to Camacho about her.

Weintraub said while she does not defend her word choice, she had every right to be outraged by Torres' unprofessional conduct.

The prosecutor asked the court to strike Torres' declaration.

The trial will resume today, Wednesday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Green Meadow School students, principal Milagros Songcuan, and teachers-coaches pose for a photo after their successful participation in the regional Primary Grade Forensic Competition last Saturday at Grace Christian Academy.

GMS students strike gold in regional PGFC

Green Meadow School students, also known as Falcons, won three gold medals, three silvers, and seven bronzes in the regional Primary Grade Forensic Competition last Saturday at the Grace Christian Academy.

The Falcons' outstanding performance in the contest among private and public schools students in the Kindergarten 5 to fifth-grade level was highlighted by their two gold medal wins, three silvers, and four bronzes in the K-2 Division.

GMS' other gold medal came from the 3-5 Division, while the Falcons made several Top 5 finishes in other levels.

School principal Milagros Songcuan was ecstatic to see more students excel in different categories and congratulated them, their teachers-coaches, and parents for working together to do well at the regionals.

"The support and encouragement the students got from the teachers and their parents inspired the Falcons to succeed," Songcuan said.

The Falcons were among the hundreds of students who qualified for the regionals after a series of preliminary competitions. Here is a complete list of the GMS students who won in the regional PGFC:

K-2 DIVISION
1st Place
DI – Chedlen Rose Villanueva- 2nd Grade
Duo- Louise Manansala / Trishthony Duarte- 2nd Grade

2nd Place
Duo- Justin Mallari / Alexia Panganiban- 2nd Grade
DI – Nelisa Nicole Acaba- 1st Grade
Choral Speaking – Jericho Hinolan, Alexia Rubia, Stephanie De Leon, Rihanna De Leon, Marvie Llaga- 1st Grade

3rd Place
HI – Justin Mallari- 2nd Grade
Impromtu. – Carly Kate Dela Cruz- 2nd Grade
Readers Forum – Jealexis Torres- 2nd Grade
Duo – Paul Andrei Bernardo-Kyle Khaled Ladia-Kinder 5

4th Place
Choral Speaking – Cody Ryan Santos, Carly Kate Dela Cruz, Jonathan Borja, Ralph Clarence Molinar, and Louise Manansala- 2nd Grade
Duo – Alexia Rubia / Stephanie De Leon- 1st Grade
Readers Forum – Iyanah Ranin- 2nd Grade

5th Place
Duo – Kian Andrei Estolas / Rhett Garth Agbayani- 1st Grade
Choral Speaking – Anna Julia Dalusung, Kendrick Dale Garcia, Paula Bernardo, Tristan Yanto, Kaithlyn AlexaDrilon- 2nd Grade

3-5 DIVISION
1st Place
Choral Speaking – Audrey Agcoscos, Ezra Alfred, Gwen Denise Lagmay, Zaira Llaga, Leonard Jake Regalado- 3rd Grade

3rd Place
DI – Ariel Legaspi- 5th Grade
DUO – Chealzka Navarro/ Arro Solana Hunter- 4th Grade
Choral Speaking – Jezreel Drilon, Krisselle Drilon, Nicole Sacramento- 5th Grade

4th Place
Choral Speaking – Arro Solana Hunter, Chealzka Navarro, Nicole Llaga, Jasmyne Tolentino, Samantha Mangalinao-4th Grade
Duo – Kristin Jewel Dela Cruz, Krisselle Drilon- 5th Grade

5th Place
HI – Ariel Legaspi- 5th Grade
Choral Speaking – Lorenz Espiritu, Elijah Umali, Ed Justin Quiambao, Darren Jorel Tabora, Jeremiah Alfred-5th Grade

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CONGRATULATIONS!

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. Jason Jay N. Ayuyu from Tinian, who won $1,000 instantly playing "Break The Bank" on NMSA's NEW Instant Scratchies $2 game. For only $2.00, you can win up to $10,000. Get your tickets now! GOOD LUCK TO ALL!

Torres' SoCA to focus on NMI's changing economy

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres would make his first report to the people of the Commonwealth on Friday, with the CNMI's changing economy the focus of his State of the Commonwealth Address. He would speak before a joint session of the Legislature on Friday at 10am at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

This is the Legislature's first joint session since the late governor Eloy S. Inos' SoCA on June 30, 2014.

Although the CNMI has made some gains and improvement with its economy, Torres said there are still challenges that need to be addressed. "The [SoCA's] focus is our past, present, and future economic development."

"How the CNMI's economic state had been shaped through many administrations and where we are now. We're also going to present what we have been doing to strengthen our foundations for future generations."

The CNMI's economy is tourism-based and the government would like to capitalize on the entry of the new gaming industry. The administration, together with various agencies like the Marianas Visitors Authority, has been trying to come up with various ideas on how to have new attractions in the CNMI to attract more tourists.

Torres, in an earlier interview, said what happened to the garment industry more than a decade ago had been a lesson to the CNMI and they have been coming up with safety nets to avoid a similar incident.

Although his report to the public would focus on the good things that have happened in the CNMI, he would also acknowledge the challenges the Commonwealth is facing and would confront in the future.

"There are challenges that are ahead of us and I would also put down the actions that we've taken to address these issues. It is not all fine and dandy, but for the most part it has been pretty good. We've done a pretty good job."

Torres met with the leadership—House and Senate members of the local GOP—yesterday, discussing with them the joint session this Friday and thanking them for organizing SoCA.

Torres would also enumerate the achievements and gains of his administration as well as their vision for the CNMI's future generations. He would also use the event to submit the government's proposed budget for fiscal year 2018 to the Legislature, one day ahead of the April 1 deadline.

The new gaming industry pumped in the needed funds to the CNMI's coffers, allowing the government to fund its departments and other programs as well as settling some of its financial obligations.

Money for the Retirement Fund, bonuses for the retirees and their beneficiaries, salary adjustment and increases for law enforcement officers and all government employees, and pay longstanding obligations to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

DEF JAM

Kagman High School will be having its 8th annual DEF JAM on April 7, 2017, from 5pm to 9pm, at the KHS café. DEF JAM consists of poetry recitals, singing, and other talents from students of KHS, alumni and other schools. We invite the public to come witness the hidden talents of Saipan on this night. Entry is free to the public. Alumni who are interested in performing should contact the school at 237-3187 or 664-3780 between 9am and 2pm. Here, school alumni Ruth Norita, Travis Kaliga and Kelani Ludwig from the Kagman High School Def Jam collection.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CUC

From Page 1

vices Marianas Inc., detailing CUC's intention to buy a diesel generator. The letter states that CUC notified GPSM on Feb. 17 about the plan to procure the machine.

Camacho stated in the letter CUC's decision to procure one 8- to 10-megawatt generator, based on the quotation of GPSM and its partner, Fairbanks Morse.

"Thereafter, CUC met with GPSM's team over several days to discuss contract terms and financing. These discussions included presentations and discussions with CUC's board of directors," Camacho's letter states. "I am pleased to inform you that the board of directors has decided that CUC will continue with its plans to proceed with the procurement of this engine. This includes the turnkey supply, installation, and commissioning."

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain comments from Camacho, for the details of the contract, along with the procurement and bidding process that took place, but he has yet to answer as of press time.

A source at CUC said the process did not go through the corporation's Procurement and Supply Division; rather it was "upper management" that handled the project.

Propst and Villagomez questioned why the CUC board decided to go ahead and put together the emergency purchase for the generator unit. They also questioned the Toelkes' company's credibility since it has been in operation in the CNMI for less than a year.

Amelia R. Toelkes is the wife of Robert Toelkes, whose company, International Bridge Corp., filed for bankruptcy last year and failed to finish its project at the JFK High School in Guam.

Robert Toelkes is also implicated in the M/V *Luta* controversy, being one of the defendants in the case filed by Japanese investor Takahisa Yamamoto.

IBC, according to *Pacific Daily News*, owes the Internal Revenue Service $9.2 million in federal taxes and another $4.8 million in business taxes to the government of Guam.

"There are a lot of issues concerning JFK High School. They have problems with their project at the school and it was never finished. [GPSM] started its operations in June 2016 and they partnered with Fairbanks Moores but they are not an actual partner, more like a salesperson or a middleman. There's a huge concern for this that needs to be looked into and find out if they [FM] is the seller or a partner. If there's a middleman, the generator would definitely cost higher," said Propst.

Villagomez asked for the reason behind the emergency purchase. "Why don't they [CUC] just go straight to the supplier? There's no proper procedure in the emergency procurement. Why is it an emergency purchase?"

Propst also questioned why the CUC board moved quickly with the emergency purchase, despite the fact that Saipan is not experiencing any rolling blackouts and power outages.

"They [board] should have secured a consultant since this person is needed to address the reliability, efficiency, and technology of the generator," he said. "The board must make sure they are putting together the best plan in purchasing the generator. They are moving this expeditiously without carefully scrutinizing the contract. Another problem is the board held a closed-door meeting on March 13 to discuss the negotiations of the contract with GPSM. We know nothing about the meeting. Why are they already negotiating with [GPSM]?"

Propst said they want to know Toelkes' background, whether she's an engineer or a long-time contractor with experience in dealing with generators. "This is very sketchy and I don't think any taxpayer would like this. If a [request for proposal] was done, it would make more sense. They are already negotiating with the terms as if they already purchased it."

Villagomez said this is an issue that the House Public Utilities and Communication Committee, chaired by Rep. Francisco Dela Cruz (R-Saipan), should look into. Rep. Blas Jonathan Attao (Ind-Saipan) is the lone minority member that is also part of the PUC committee.

Since it's almost budget season, the Legislature, through the House Ways and Means Committee, could ask CUC about this project, Villagomez said.

"This is how corruption happens. They should have opened that to the public. It is okay to have an executive session to discuss certain issues, but in terms for them to move forward with this decision, that should be made public based on the Open Government Act."

AIRPORT

From Page 1

Saipan Tribune that CPA has yet to receive all materials and supplies.

"Mid-April, we should be getting all the materials," said Toves.

He assured, though, that the lights that are already in hand are being installed in a "phase-by-phase replacement" of existing runway lights.

"It is still an ongoing process," he said.

The runway lights failed three times in the last quarter of 2016 and were set for replacement last November 2016 after CPA discovered that the lights were failing mostly due to age and outside interference.

It was noted by CPA that water has been seeping into the wiring, causing a short-circuit that ultimately burned the wire, thus requiring immediate shutdown to avoid further damage.

The runway lights have been functioning properly since the beginning of 2017. All that is left is for the arrival of the materials and the installation of the new system.

"The electrician is already working on it, which is why CPA has to close the runway from 6am to 5pm so that runway work would continue," said Toves. "As soon as we receive all the materials, the runway would be finished [soon]."

CPA notified all airlines about the rehabilitation plan in a notice to airmen, NOTAM, around 2010, a few months after CPA secured approval for the runway rehabilitation project in 2009.

The rehabilitation project includes the replacement of runway lights. Overall completion of the rehabilitation project has yet to be seen because of numerous issues and concerns surrounding the project.

Legal disputes between CPA and GPPC Inc., the contractor handling the project, are currently ongoing, with the latter filing a lawsuit due to an alleged breach of contract. CPA declined to comment on whether the rehabilitation project is ongoing or not.

Because of the dispute, the CPA board opted to allocate an additional budget to procure the new runway lights.

FLORIST

From Page 1

pants, a pair of flip-flops, and with a bushy wig covering his face.

The second suspect was described as skinny, wearing a T-shirt, a pair of shorts and slippers, with his face wrapped with a T-shirt.

The third suspect was described as short, skinny, shirtless, and wearing a pair of shorts, a pair of lip-flops, and his face also wrapped in a T-shirt.

Tarkong said the suspects went inside the office on the second floor of the building, where they stayed for few minutes, stealing several liquor bottles and a Wilton Brown ukulele valued at $400.

Tarkong said the Design Florist owner, a 58-year-old local male, showed the officers last Jan. 29 at 9am footage of a video surveillance that was recorded earlier.

The video footage showed three male suspects with their faces covered entering the office.

Tarkong said the establishment has been repeatedly burglarized in the last few months.

Last Jan. 15, the suspects stole an HP computer system valued at over $2,500.

The Department of Public Safety and Crime Stoppers are seeking the public's help for information about the three burglars.

In the latest case, a Design Florist employee said the suspects broke the square glass of the door in the office, located in the back portion, giving them entry to the place.

She said the suspects stole items in the flower shop on the first floor and in the office, chapel, and showroom for caskets on the second floor.

The suspects took several brass crosses, each measuring about 12 inches tall, with gold and silver color, but left them on the stairs.

HIGH

From Page 2

to the Supreme Court.

The justices said they will not waste their time on appellate briefs that egregiously fail to comport with the NMI Supreme Court Rules. The justices said this case is one of those cases where dismissal is warranted because of Feng Hua's flagrant disregard for the rules.

"We find the violations egregious," the justices pointed out.

First, the justices said, Feng Hua fails to include a corporate disclosure statement as required.

Second, they noted, the statement of issues is vague; it fails to articulate the issues on appeal.

Third, the justices said, the statement of the case does not comport with Rule 28, which provides that the statement must "briefly indicate the nature of the case, the course proceedings, and the disposition below."

Fourth, the justices said, Feng Hua fails to include the statement of facts and summary of argument.

Fifth, the justices said, the argument fails to comply with Rule 28 which requires citations to "authorities and parts of the record on which the appellant relies."

Sixth, the justices said, Feng Hua's appendix does not comport with Rule 30 which requires an appellant to file docket entries, portions of pleadings, charge, findings, opinion, judgment, order, or decision relevant to the appeal.

Finally, the justices said, Feng Hua's conclusion is not short and precise as required by Rule 28.

The justices pointed out that the appeal is inundated with egregious violations of appellate rules.

MHS breaks ground for a new cafeteria

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Marianas High School students and staff pose with those present during the ceremony.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Acting Board of Education chair Janice Marie A. Tenorio, Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero, Marianas High School principal Cherlyn Cabrera, acting governor Arnold Palacios, Saipan Mayor David Apatang, Public School System-Capital Improvement Project coordinator Rachel Fusco, Public Works Secretary James Ada, U.S. Office of Insular Affairs field representative Harry Blanco, contractor HBR International Inc.'s Gilbert Saludez, and MHS Student Council president Yuuki Nishida turn the first sod for MHS' new cafeteria.

A new $2.5-million cafeteria for Marianas High School will be built to accommodate the growing student population as well as a new culinary arts program.

Last Monday, MHS held a groundbreaking ceremony for the federally funded project.

MHS principal Cherlyn Cabrera said the new cafeteria has become necessary. "Why? Because we need a bigger cafeteria for our current student needs," she said.

Despite the school's 1,600 student population, the current cafeteria can only accommodate 400 students. Cabrera said the need for a new cafeteria has been in the works for 10 years.

Cabrera also said the new cafeteria will allow for an expansion in career technical education, including a culinary arts program.

Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero said the funding is a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The new cafeteria will expand the vocational program of the Public School System.

HBR International Inc. is the project's contractor. It is expected to be completed by January 2018.

Other dignitaries that attended Monday's groundbreaking were acting governor Arnold Palacios, Saipan Mayor David Apatang, Reps. Edwin Propst, Lee Pan Guerrero, Angel Demapan, Frank Aguon, Frank Dela Cruz, Jose Itibus, Greg Sablan, Edmund Villagomez, and Joseph Deleon Guerrero, acting Board of Education chair Janice A. Tenorio, and HBR International Inc.'s Gilbert Saludez. *(Yuuki Nishida)*

Partial water outage on Tinian

There will be a scheduled partial water outage on Tinian this Saturday, April 1, 2017, from 6am to 7pm, and this Sunday, April 2, 2017, from 8am to 7pm to install the necessary upgrades on the PRV system for the waterlines.

Areas affected by these outages include San Jose, Carolinas Heights, and portions of Marpo Valley.

For more information, call 433-9261/9264/9265. *(CUC)*

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BDO Remit IREMIT

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Max's Restaurant Delivery Remittance
Red Ribbon Delivery Remittance

For inquiries, please visit our main office at RNV Bldg. Beach Road, Garapan or call us at (670) **233-7249** or **235-8778**
E-mail: remittance@rnvforex.com
FB page: www.facebook.com/rnvforex

4th Women's Summit ends with call to action

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kbautista1222@gmail.com
REPORTER

The two-day 4th Annual Women's Summit, hosted by the CNMI Women's Association and Office of Women's Affairs, ended yesterday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe with a call to empower women in the CNMI and give them the information they need.

For the first time, Rota delegates took part in the summit.

Former lawmaker Felicidad Ogumoro, association president and overall chair, was pleased with the outcome of this year's summit.

"I feel like it was very successful. All the panelists gave key information that were needed to empower women," she told *Saipan Tribune*. "…I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and honor our women for all they have done to make our lives here in the CNMI, both for themselves, and their families, successful."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero, first lady Diann Torres, Frances Sablan and acting Board of Education chair Janice Marie A. Tenorio were among the women leaders-advocates that participated in the ongoing 4th VNMI Women's Summit.

This year's theme was "Empowering Women as Leaders of Change."

The two-day summit had seven panels of discussion on women's roles in the home and workplace, politics, gender equality and parity, land and the environment, education, as well as entrepreneurship.

In Ogumoro's remarks, she said this year's theme is a very special and powerful one. "It signifies our determination to continue building on the progress made to date and to champion the work toward the realization of the vision of women fully participating in all aspects of the development of our Commonwealth."

The summit was attended by different groups of people: government authorities and leaders from Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Guam, as well as close to 60 students from across the public and private high schools.

Featured speakers included Viola Alepuyo of Imperial Pacific International and Dr. Julie Ulloa-Heath of the Guam Community College.

According to the registry, 27 delegates from Rota attended this year's summit.

According to Ogumoro, the number of students that registered to join the summit was about 80 for the first day and for the second day. On the first day, the number of students exceeded 80 and, according to Ogumoro, this was a good thing because the issues being discussed concerned most of the younger generation.

Marianas Baptist Academy's Katrina Reyes found the topic about women and culture the most insightful. According to her, "I think all the panels did great and gave a lot of insight on how we, as women, play a big role in the community."

"Growing up, I did not have much insight of the culture… a lot of the language and the history is kind of fading and bringing it back and just to learn more about it is really eye opening," Reyes said.

On its last day, participants worked toward an action plan and identified a number of resolutions that will direct planning and programs geared toward the engagement and advancement of women in the political, economic, and social development of the CNMI.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-17-IFB-011

SUPPLY, DELIVERY OF TRACTOR BOOM MOWER

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) is soliciting sealed bids for the Supply, Delivery of Tractor Boom Mower, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **March 22, 2017** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **Fifty Dollars ($50.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

Breach of Ethical Standard

- ***Gratuities.*** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any person to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee, or for any employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept, or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract or to any solicitation or proposal therefor.
- ***Kickbacks.*** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith as an inducement for the award of a subcontractor or order.
- ***Contingent fees.*** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for a person to be retained, or to retain a person, to solicit or secure government contracts upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies for the purpose of securing business.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **April 7, 2017, 9:00 a.m. local time** at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **April 28, 2017** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of **Technical Services Division,** 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.
The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked "**DPW-17-IFB-011**". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, May 3, 2017**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, May 3, 2017**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **May 3, 2017** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **May 12, 2017**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, May 17, 2017**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on May 3, 2017**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**$25,000.00**) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.crm.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE

Payment Procedures for DCRM Permit Fees

CNMI Administrative Code §15-10-205(f) requires all Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) permit applications to be accompanied by a non-refundable DCRM permit application fee in accordance with the fee schedule set. All payments are to be remitted to the CNMI Treasurer.

Effective March 20, 2017, all DCRM permit applicants are required to obtain a payment voucher from DCRM before remitting payment for any and all application fees to the CNMI Treasurer. All payments made to the CNMI Treasurer must be accompanied by a DCRM payment voucher. DCRM will require all receipts of transactions to be accompanied by a payment voucher when submitting any and all applications.

/s/Frances A. Castro
Director
Division of Coastal Resources Management

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.crm.gov.mp

Frank M. Rabauliman
Administrator

Frances A. Castro
Director, DCRM

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a CRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on ***Thursday, April 06, 2017, at 10:00AM*** at the BECQ Main Conference Room, Suite 205, Gualo Rai, Middle Road, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
a) Call to Order
b) Roll Call
c) Adoption of Agenda
d) Adoption of the March 09, 2017 Meeting Minutes

II. PERMIT APPLICATION - AMENDMENT
1. Saipan International Real Estate development Corp., Ltd.
Ocean Vista Resort (SMS-2015-X-010, Amendment 2017-1)
a. Discussion by CRM Agency Officials and DCRM Director
b. Permit Amendment Determination

III. OTHER MATTERS
IV. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items. (NOTE: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).

/s/ FRANCES A. CASTRO
DCRM Director

Transgender 'restroom guidelines' in hands of school administrators

By YUUKI NISHIDA
thisisyuuki@gmail.com
STUDENT REPORTER

On Feb. 22, the Trump administration rescinded federal protections for transgender students that instructed schools to allow them to use restrooms and locker rooms matching their gender identities.

"This is an issue best solved at the state and local level," Education Secretary Betsy DeVos said. "Schools, communities, and families can find—and in many cases have found—solutions that protect all students."

In a joint letter from the justice and education departments, it said the federal rule was devised "without due regard for the primary role of the states and local school districts in establishing educational policy."

Without the federal guideline, it will be up to states and school districts to interpret the anti-discrimination law and determine a solution to the issue.

Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero said: "It's really important that [schools] continue to recognize and respect the students and their choices."

She said an administrative policy on the issue would be placed in the hands of school principals. "They need to look at their student population and at their concerns so that they are able to express themselves freely," Guerrero added. "A federal law is a federal law. When there's a change in administration, it does not change the fact that we still have to address the students' needs. That continues to be our primary focus."

In a letter to the nation's schools, the justice and education departments said, "All schools must ensure that all students, including LGBT students, are able to learn and thrive in a safe environment."

At Hopwood Middle School, principal Rizalina P. Liwag said that the school respects students who identify themselves as a different gender.

"We have a restroom in [Hopwood's] office that is gender-neutral. Depending on the student's needs, they are able to freely use the [office] restroom," Liwag said.

Fifteen states have explicit protections for transgender students in their state laws, and some individual school districts in other states have adopted policies that cover students on the basis of their gender identity.

AG's Cup to commemorate its 33rd year

The 33rd Attorney General's Cup speech competition will be held on May 5, 2017, at 9am at the CNMI Supreme Court courtroom.

This year, six high schools will be participating: Marianas High School, Southern High School, Kagman High School, Grace Christian Academy, Marianas Baptist Academy, and Dr. Rita H. Inos High School.

This year's topic focuses on the balance of power between the federal government and the Commonwealth.

This topic will be explored in the context of management of natural resources for the benefit of the public, and will focus on whether local control or federal management is the better approach.

The issue presented is: Whether the federal government has overstepped its constitutional authority, and whether a more localized approach to management and control of natural resources would be preferable with regard to the following actions: (1) The President of the United States declaring national monuments through the use of the Antiquities Act of 1906; (2) The federal government's designation of endangered and threatened species under the Endangered Species Act, and related regulations to restrict economic activities that may affect the designated species or its habitat; and (3) The federal government's declaration of marine sanctuaries and marine conservation areas, with restrictions on fishing and harvesting.

"This is another great topic for our students to research and debate. The topic is on the authority of governments to manage certain aspect of our environment, some of which may be inconsistent with how we use these resources. I am excited to hear and learn from the students and I invite the public to attend and do the same," said Attorney General Edward Manibusan.

The Office of the Attorney General and the AG's Cup Committee invites the public to attend the speech competition and support the students of the CNMI as they ponder on current issues. ***(PR)***

MHS gym renovation to start soon

The Marianas High School's gymnasium that sustained damage from Typhoon Soudelor in August 2015 will soon be assessed, followed by repairs.

On Monday morning, Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero stated that the notice to proceed with renovation work was issued to the contractor two weeks ago.

She said: "They will we be emptying the gym so they can access what they need to do. They are going to address the damage done by the typhoon and will start replacing the damage."

The MHS gym was completed in 200. The Department of Public Works, Philippine Goods Inc., and the Efrain F. Camacho Architects and Engineers all worked together to build the $2.4-million facility. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

- Great central location next to McDonald's on Middle Rd with lots of parking – look out for our Saipan Vegas sign.
- Fabulous Player Promotions – cash give-aways every night of the week – with midnight mega-draws including flat screen tvs and mobile phones (see venue for details).
- Big Floor Wide Jackpots More Often – with the biggest floorwide jackpot in Saipan up to $10,000 to be won by any player, at any machine, with any bet amount. Lots of smaller jackpots won by players each hour.
- Special Buffet Dinner for Players – Promo for the entire month of April – player buffet dinner in our dining room for a unbelievable $1.99 per meal for players only. 7pm to 10pm every night.
- Local Live Entertainment on Friday and Saturday nights – open mic karoke on Thursday nights.

Come play today and enjoy a fun night out and a chance to be a big winner!

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Naftan Bomb Storage and Naftan Ordnance Disposal
Munitions Response Sites Remedial Investigation

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers invites you to attend a public meeting on the date, time, and location stated below during which results of the Naftan Bomb Storage and Naftan Ordnance Disposal remedial investigation (RI) will be presented. The RI was performed in accordance with the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS) to determine the extent of munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) and munitions constituents (MC) contamination at these sites. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers representatives will be available during the meeting to answer your questions concerning DERP-FUDS as well as elements of the Naftan Bomb Storage and Naftan Ordnance Disposal RI.

Meeting Date: Wednesday, April 5, 2017
Meeting Time: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Meeting Location: American Memorial Park
Visitor Center Theater

For more information about the upcoming meeting, please contact Helene Takemoto, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District Project Manager at:

Department of the Army
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Honolulu District
Programs and Project Management Division
Environmental Branch
Building 230
Attn: CEPOH-PP-E (Helene Takemoto)
Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440
Telephone: 808.835.4088
Fax: 808.835.4129
E-Mail: FUDS-POH@usace.army.mil

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM, DR-4235-MP
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Caller Box 10007
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel.: (670) 664-2375
Fax: (670) 664-2408

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Generator System Supply and Installation- Rota Mayor's Office
RFP17-GOV-077

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the CNMI Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified contractors to supply and install a generator for the Rota Mayor's Office on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, currently in effect, and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30-3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the CNMI.

The project package will be available beginning March 15, 2017 at the Governor's CIP Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan. A pre-proposal meeting will be held on Rota at 10:00 a.m. on April 5, 2017, at the Rota Mayor's Office conference room.

Questions about this request for proposal shall be addressed to the HMGP Office attn.: Leona DLG. Sablan, in writing via e-mail: leona.cip@gmail.com or facsimile (670) 664-2408 no later than 4:30 p.m., ChST, April 11, 2017.

The total proposal length shall not exceed 15 pages in length. A contractor that submits a proposal as a prime contractor cannot also submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, as a subcontractor, a company may be included in multiple proposals by different contractors.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1.	Qualifications and experience on similar projects	30%
2.	Work load and resources to accomplish work	10%
3.	Project Approach & Schedule	10%
4.	Cost	50%

Performance time for completion of this project is 120 calendar days upon issuance of notice to proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 120 calendar days, the contract price and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

Discussions shall be conducted with the top 3 ranked contractors. After a selection is made, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified contractor to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The successful proposers will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Proposals must be sealed and marked RFP17-GOV-077 Generator System Supply and Installation- Rota Mayor's Office. For proposers within the CNMI, one original and three (3) copies of the proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than 10:00 a.m. ChST, April 24, 2017. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of intent to propose. Notices of intent to propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., ChST, April 24, 2017 and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com.

For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and three (3) copies of the sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than, April 24, 2017, and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than May 3, 2017. Failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

Virginia C. Villagomez
Governor's Authorized Representative

Herman S. Sablan
Director of Procurement and Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866/234-9447/234-7689/234-7670 - Fax. (670) 234-9021 Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

PUBLIC NOTICE

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS PAID FOR BY NMHC WITH CPD FUNDS.

COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

March 15, 2017

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Governor
Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 237-2200 or (670) 234-7689/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after March 31, 2017, the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Honolulu Field Office, for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, to undertake the following project and purposes in Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
Renovation of the Tinian Gymnasium	To renovate the entire gymnasium facility for the community of Tinian	San Jose, Tinian	$312,185.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Central Office in Garapan, Saipan or the Tinian Field Office located in San Jose, and may be examined or copied during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI or Austerity Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the projects may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 or direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan or the Tinian Field Office Located in San Jose. All comments received by **March 31, 2017**, will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD Honolulu Field Office that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Ralph DLG. Torres consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities, and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of fifteen days following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Honolulu Field Office, 1132 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Ralph DLG. Torres
Governor

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-17-021

IFET DRIVE 4-INCH WATERLINE PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Ifet Drive 4-Inch Waterline Project in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of new installation of new 4-inch & 6-inch distribution lines and tapping to existing mains. The work also includes the installation of new flush hydrant, new water lateral connections, relocation and reconnection of existing water meters and asphalt pavement restoration, etc. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications. CUC requires the Project to be completed in **120 calendar days** from date of award of contract

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $50.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **March 29, 2017** at **10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-17-021, Ifet Drive 4-Inch Waterline Project" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 05, 2017**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on March 31, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

CRIME OF THE WEEK

Car stolen in As Lito

Crime Stoppers is seeking the public's help for a car that was stolen in As Lito.

On Sunday, Feb. 19, 2017, at about 1:30pm, the victim parked his car on Monsignor Martinez Road by Ming Li store. A few hours later, the victim discovered that his Red 1989 Toyota Hilux pickup truck, with license plate ABK-269, was missing. Police have searched for the vehicle and have not located it. The car has an Air Jordan sticker on the rear windshield.

DPS and Crime Stoppers need your help. Contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you want to remain anonymous or use our website at www.nmicrimestoppers.net Crime stoppers pays up to $1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. It pays to call. ***(Crime Stoppers)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

This Red 1989 Toyota Hilux pickup truck, with license plate ABK-269, has been stolen.

New book focuses on shifts in Japanese tourism trends

Dr. Fred Schumann, University of Guam associate professor of Global Resources Management, recently published a book on shifts in Japanese tourism.

Changing Trends in Japan's Employment and Leisure Activities - Implications for Tourism Marketing discusses how new developments in the Japanese workforce affect how people spend their income and free time. It also explains how these changes affect tourism destinations that rely on the Japanese market.

"I've always believed that you should find out what's going on in your visitors' home country if you're going to invite them to yours," Schumann said. "What we do here really depends on what's going on in their homes."

Over the last three years, Schumann has researched and collected data on the waxing and waning Japanese tourism market in Guam. By understanding what's going on in Japan, destination management organizations and businesses that depend on tourism can re-strategize to fit the consumer.

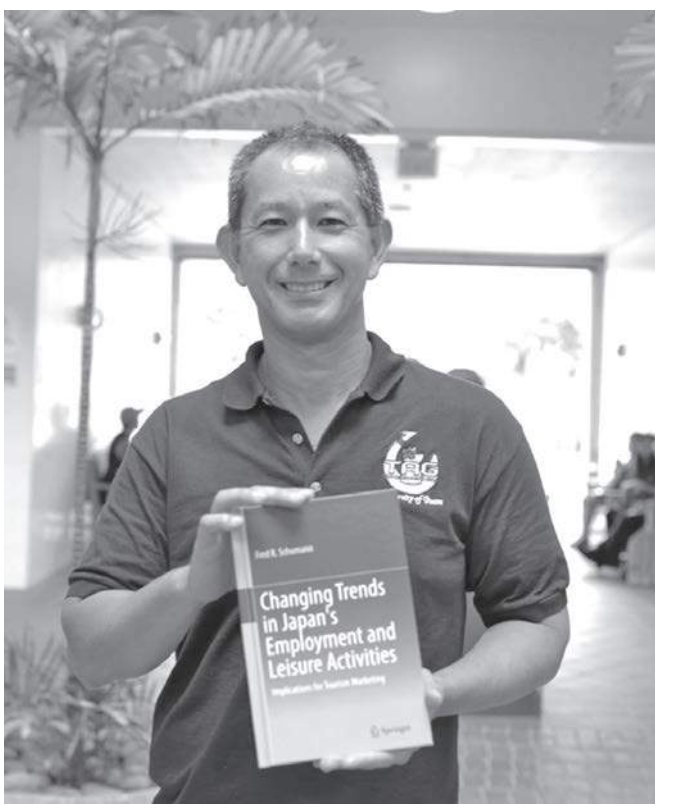
"Japan is three hours and 15 minutes away from Guam," Schumann said. "The people have the money to travel. The market is very important for us, but the days of sitting back and waiting for people to visit are over. We need to find out more about our guests if we're going to invite them to our home. It's a challenge, but it's an opportunity."

Some of the reasons why Japanese tourism trends have changed can be attributed to what Schumann describes as "myths" in his book.

"There's an assumption that Japanese people have 'lifetime employment,'" he said. "For many people living in that country, it's just not true. Also, the population is shrinking. There are more contract workers—all these variables affect how Japanese people are spending their extra time and money."

Schumann, who has been a business executive in the Asia-Pacific region for more than 30 years, has worked with various multinational retail and hospitality firms. In terms of research, his primary interests have been in the field of international tourism and trends in consumer spending.

Schumann's book can be purchased directly through the Springer Nature website or on Amazon.com. For more information, contact Fred Schumann at schumannf@triton.uog.edu. ***(PR)***



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dr. Fred Schumann, associate professor of Global Resources Management at the University of Guam, poses with his new book at the UOG School of Business and Public Administration.

BECQ lines up activities for this year's EAM

April is Environmental Awareness Month and the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality has lined up a series of activities throughout the month.

This year's EAM theme is "Eco Friendly from the Mountains to the Sea." In line with this, BECQ will be offering events that are perfect for families to enjoy together: lab tours, snorkel day, tree giveaway, environmental expo, and an islandwide cleanup. BECQ will also have contests such as recycling competitions/phone book roundups, a boat building contest using recyclables, and a photography contest.

The lab tour will give students insight on how it is to work in a laboratory and gain knowledge on the importance of testing water quality, on top of determining whether beaches are safe to swim in. For more information, contact Dean Palacios or Charito Bautista at (670) 664-8500 or email them at deanpalacios@becq.gov.mp or charitobaustita@becq.gov.mp and sign up today.

Snorkel Day is intended for families to see the ocean environment up close and get a workout for the day. They may bring their snorkel or use one of BECQ's. For more information, contact Jihan Buniag at (670) 664-8500 or email him at jihanbuniag@becq.gov.mp

BECQ will also host a tree giveaway. BECQ, in partnership with CNMI Forestry and NMC-CREES, will be giving out free native trees and plants. This will promote the reduction of harmful erosion impacts. This event will be held at the Flame Tree Arts Festival grounds, from 9am to 12pm. For more information, contact Tom Pangelinan at BECQ at (670) 664-8500 or email him at tompangelinan@becq.gov.mp.

One of the BECQ's main events for the month is the Environmental Expo, a two-day event. BECQ invites fourth grade students, educators, and the public to attend. For more information, contact Reina Camacho or Zabrina Shai at BECQ at (670) 664-8500 or email them at reinacamacho@becq.gov.mp or zabrinashai@becq.gov.mp.

The Islandwide Cleanup will take place on April 28, 2016, from 2:30pm to 4:30pm. For more information, contact Jose M. Kaipat at (670) 664-8500 or email him at josekaipat@becq.gov.mp to sign up.

BECQ, in partnership with IT&E, the Public School System, and private schools will have a program that is dedicated to collecting old phone books from Yellow Pages Inc. to promote the reduction of waste. For more information, contact Juan Iguel at (670) 664-8500 or email him at juaniguel@becq.gov.mp.

In the "Build-A-Boat" and race contests, school entries and individual entries are welcome. Participants will build and design unique boats out of recycled materials, then race them to the finish line in the waters off Kilili Beach.

The winner of the "Build-A-Boat" contest may win $400 if they win the overall award for Best Recycled Boat design, or $100 if they get the People's Choice award.

For the race, participants may win first place, "Sea Star" with a prize of $200, second place, "Sea Urchin" with a prize of $60, or third place, "Sea Cucumber," with a prize of $40. Participants who don't place in the top three will still receive consolation prizes.

The competition will be held on Saturday, April 8, and will start at 10:30am. Participants must show up at 9:30am for the boat design contest, followed by the race. For more information, contact Ryan Okano at 664-8500 or email him at oliviatenorio@becq.gov.mp.

BECQ will also host a photography contest called "Know Your Tides"; it will be open to the public. Participants must go out and take a picture of their favorite shore at high tide, low tide, or any tide in between. Entries must be sent through Facebook, or Instagram with the location and the tide category: high, low, rising or falling. Participants can use the tag #KnowYourTides to tag BECQ. This contest includes high school, and the general public. Winners will be determined based on first, most likes, second, most artistic, third, highest high tide, and fourth, lowest low tide. For more information, contact Ariele Baker at 664-8500 or via email at arielebaker@becq.gov.mp

The non-profit group Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance will also be hosting Environmental Awareness Month activities.

Every Tuesday, Joeten stores will not distributing plastic bags; instead, consumers will be offered the option to use their own bags, provided boxes, paper bags for 10 cents, or to purchase reusable shopping bags for 99 cents.

MINA volunteers will be setting up learning stations on Thursdays at the Garapan Street Market throughout April. Bring your old T-shirts and the team will teach you how to transform old T-shirts into reusable bags. MINA encourages the community to refuse plastic bags at the checkout counter. For more information, contact Jolly Ann Cruz at 233-7333 or email her at minaoutreach@gmail.com.

For additional information contact EAM chair Jonathan I. Arriola or EAM vice chair, Merrill Ayuyu at 664-8500 or email them at jonathanarriola@becq.gov.mp or merrillayuyu@becq.gov.mp. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Participants sought in research

Those who participated in the Pacific STAR Center for Young Writers project in 2006 are being invited to take part in a research project conducted by a CNMI resident Jennifer Furey Maratita.

In 2006, young writers were asked to contribute to a book, titled *We Drank Our Tears: Memories of the Battles for Saipan and Tinian as Told by Our Elders* (Tuten-Puckett, 2004).

Maratita's research questions will focus on the understanding of the impact this project had and its relevance in your life nowadays. The impacts of shared narratives across generations in the CNMI are of special concern. For more information, email Maratita at jennifer.maratita@waldenu.edu or call/text (670) 483-3879. ***(PR)***

Navy training at FDM, Warning Area 517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Navy will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- March 30 from 10am to 7:30pm
- March 28 and 29 from 10-11:30am and 6-7:30pm
- March 31 from 10am to 3:30pm

The U.S. Navy will also conduct training at Warning Area 517 on March 28-30, from midnight to 10pm

The public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated. ***(PR)***

Type II Handcrew Pack Test

(This is open to all individuals)

- **March 17, 2017 - Saipan [Pre-Pack Test]**, 4:30 pm (Kilili Beach)
- **March 24, 2017 - Saipan [Pre-Pack Test]**, 4:30 pm (Kilili Beach)
- **March 25, 2017 - Tinian [Pre-Pack Test]**, 9:00 am (Station 7)
- **April 1, 2017 - Saipan [Pack Test]**, 5:30am (Smiling Cove Marina)

The Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services [DFEMS] Forestry Strike Team is looking for individuals for our Type II Handcrew. Applicants must be disciplined, reliable, physically fit, and are able to work hard under tough conditions.

TEST: Applicants must complete a 3 mile walk (no running) with a 45 lbs pack under a 45 minute time period.

REQUIREMENTS: IS 700, certification for returning individuals and a valid passport to enter the United States. Must turn in items before the pack test.

Contact Person: Firefighter Linus L. Mizutani Jr.
Email: llmizutani@dfems.gov.mp I Tel.: 285-7324

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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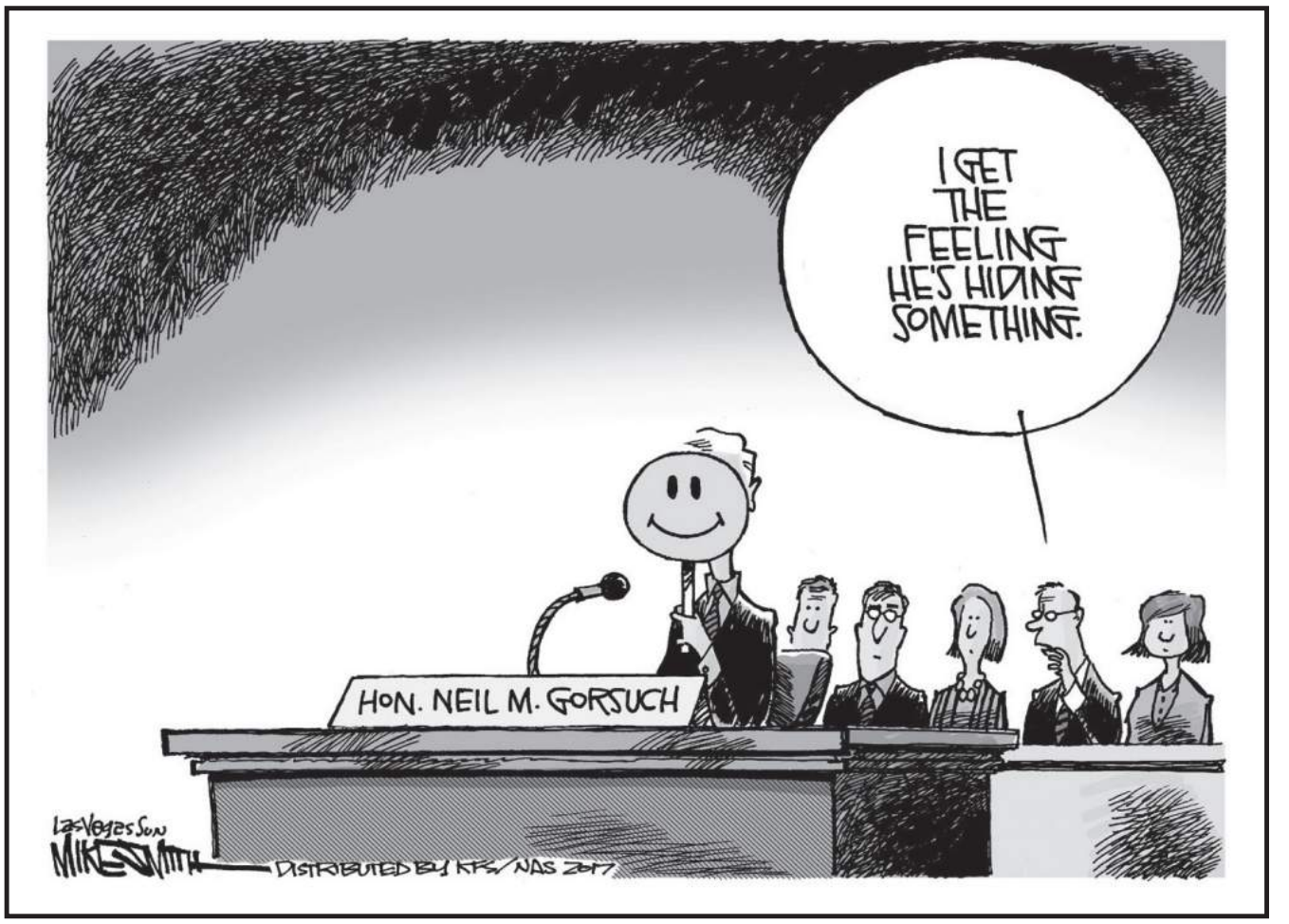


EDITORIAL

We can't walk away from a world in crisis

Americans watched in alarm but not shock as Parliament was locked down after a "terrorist incident" in London on Wednesday, the first anniversary of the deadly attack in Brussels. A refugee camp in Nigeria was also bombed on Wednesday—again—by five Boko Haram suicide bombers who'd slipped in the night before, alongside vendors of the charcoal that those who've come to the camp to escape Boko Haram need to cook their food. The day before, a car bomb killed 10 people in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia. And a few days before that, 42 Somali refugees were killed when a helicopter fired on their boat off the coast of Yemen.

The through-line of this bloody snapshot is Islamic terrorism. But the response, as laid out in President Donald Trump's budget blueprint, is to pump an extra $54 billion into the best-funded military in the world while cutting investment in virtually everything else.

One of the most counterproductive cuts of all, however, is the plan to make our country safer by slashing such "soft power" staples as diplomacy and foreign aid.

There's no serious debate about the fact that terror and instability are inextricably linked.

Even Sen. Lindsey Graham, the South Carolina Republican who spends just about full time advocating military action, knows how such cuts would work: It "would be a disaster. If you take soft power off the table, then you're never going to win the war."

Foreign aid accounts for less than 1 percent of the federal budget. And as Graham said, "Investing over there, even though we have needs here, makes us safer."

That's the strategic argument, but the moral imperative is even more compelling: We cannot walk away from the world amid what the United Nations is calling the most serious humanitarian crisis since 1945.

Twenty million people are at risk of starvation in four African countries: Nigeria, Yemen, Somalia and South Sudan, where a famine has been declared and a potential genocide has not. Millions have been forced to flee their homes in the country we helped midwife just six years ago, and tribal violence has created a hellscape of forced starvation, mass rapes and towns empty now except for the starving animals that farmers had to leave behind.

Trump's answer to a situation we've sworn more than once never to stand by and let happen seems to be to cut funding to the United Nations, which for all its problems does a heroic job of working with refugees.

"It's time to prioritize the security and well-being of Americans," the president said recently. But to do that, we cannot abandon a world in trouble.

(c) 2017 *The Kansas City Star* (Kansas City, Mo.)

Sex, the Constitution, and standing up for core values

By GEOFFREY STONE
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Geoffrey Stone is a leading constitutional scholar and author of Sex and the Constitution: Sex, Religion, and Law From America's Origins to the Twenty-First Century *(W.W. Norton, March 2017). He wrote this for* The Philadelphia Inquirer.

For the last half-century, we have experienced a constitutional revolution. It is a revolution that has tested the most fundamental values of the American people and that has shaken constitutional law to its roots. It has bitterly divided citizens, politicians and judges. It is a battle that has dominated politics, inflamed religious passions and challenged Americans to rethink and re-examine their positions on issues they once thought settled.

In the course of this ongoing conflict, American law has called into question the constitutionality of a broad range of government regulations of sexual-related behavior, including contraception, abortion, obscenity and homosexuality. In its effort to address these issues, the U.S. Supreme Court has found itself confronting fundamental questions about the nature of sexual freedom; the meaning of liberty, equality, and privacy; the legitimacy of government efforts to dictate sexual morality; and the appropriate role of religion in public life.

Not surprisingly, our social mores and our laws governing sexual behavior are deeply bound up with religious beliefs and traditions. Indeed, American attitudes about sex have been shaped over the centuries by religious beliefs—more particularly, by early Christian beliefs—about sex, sin and shame. A nettlesome question in constitutional law is how courts should cope with that history in a nation committed to the separation of church and state.

At first blush, it might seem a bit of a puzzle that constitutional law has come to play such a central role in shaping our debates over these questions. Nothing in our Constitution expressly guarantees a right to sexual freedom. Supreme Court justices from almost any prior era in American history would no doubt be surprised to learn of the role the court and our Constitution have come to play in our contemporary disputes—some call them "culture wars"—over such issues as obscenity, contraception, abortion, sodomy and same-sex marriage.

At the same time, though, it is important to understand that the world of the Framers of our Constitution was not dominated by a commitment to religious dogma. It was, rather, dominated by the values and ideals of the Enlightenment.

America was founded not as a "Christian nation" but as a nation committed to the "pursuit of happiness" and to the separation of church and state. The Framers believed that although religions have a right to set their own rules of behavior for those who share the faith, they cannot constitutionally enlist the authority of the state to compel others to conform their behavior to the commands of a religion that they do not accept as their own. To them, that was fundamental.

Many, perhaps most, Americans assume that the sexual values and attitudes of the 1950s reflect the historical norm, and that with the advent of the "sexual revolution" of the 1960s we experienced a historically unprecedented shift in our attitudes toward sexually related issues. In fact, though, history is far more complex than many Americans assume. Homosexuality, for example, was seen as acceptable in the pre-Christian world, and the idea of the "homosexual" as a person with a distinct personal identity did not come into existence until the late 19th century.

Similarly, although many Americans assume that the Supreme Court's decision in Roe v. Wade was radical and revolutionary, in fact, abortion, at least prior to "quickening," which occurs at roughly 4 { months into pregnancy, was legal throughout human history, including at the time our Constitution was adopted and, indeed, until the late 19th century. It might surprise many Americans to learn that abortion services in that era were widely and openly advertised in the press.

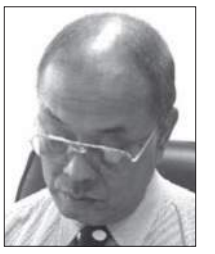
Along similar lines, there were no laws against sexual expression in the United States until the early 19th century, and material that later came to be called "obscene" was widely available and enjoyed in the United States until the era of Anthony Comstock and the late-19th-century social purity movement.

Understanding this history, and understanding how and why our constitutional law has evolved as it has over time, is essential to understanding the true nature of our ongoing controversies, and the stakes for the future. With the outcome of the 2016 election, and with possible changes in the makeup of the Supreme Court, we may soon confront fundamental questions about the continuing vitality of Roe v. Wade and of constitutional guarantees forbidding discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

It is imperative that we adhere to the commitment of the Founders of our nation that religious dogma shall not dictate the meaning of secular law and shall not serve as an excuse for denying fundamental freedoms to the American people. This is a battle we have both lost and won at different times in our history. Now is a time for citizens, legislators and judges to stand up for the core values of our American nation.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Inapelan ayudu



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Ta fafana` asuntu ni solu i federat siña umecha bendision tat kumu i mafanana`an CW1 na programan hutnalerus ginen hiyuñg. Ha inklusu este na chinatsaga i infetmera siha yan enteramiente ekonomia-ta.

Yangin ti mana`e Marianas putdet guine na puntu, pues 114 na infetmera siempre umana` fan para gi CHC gi uttimun este na sakan. Mas inaminasa i hospitat sa` sin kabales na empleau infetmera pues lamegai na fondun ti siña i CHC ha kobla i federat tat kumu apas Medicaid yan medicare.

Ta diseseha na u guaha konsiderasion guine na patte pot no umahuchum setbisiun hospitat yan una` tailaye mas i kinalamten ekonomia.

Areglu Giya Paraisu

Sisteman demokrasia na gobietnu anchu plasetña dispues tinagam ni taduñg tupu` mina` makat na kontrariu maseha manu gi papa` banderan Amerikanu.

Ta tutuhun gumubietnan maisa hit gi 1978. Kulan hit i manñalañg na katdumin galagu ni man-madagau pidasun to`lañg manog.

Sin inbatgu, ta gu`ot i te`lañg ya sige sattun ta asimula haf` ayu na attikulu. Ni federat tiha tuñgu` haf` dinagauña. Ta hoka ya sige animosu na pinetsige kume komprendi haf` yuhe na to`lañg.

Esta kanaha` 40 años desde ke ta usune humatsa kuetpun gobietnota. Maseha makat lau ni unu sumeha man-ayuda muna` mas finu i karera-ta. Maseha guaha siha dididi` linache lau hita dumiside futtuna-ta. Chat miyu fan hinahalañg. Na fitme mas inapipet para minauleg todus!

Pot I Tautau: Gi todu finacho`chu` man-menhalum na kabisiyu pot i tautau na ma-atotga masakrifisian maisa siha.

Klaru yan oppan este na ekun kinimiti gi prohimu diariu. Appenas na pot guiya soluke pot i otru. Sattun na disision para u ayuda i otru.

Yangin felis pues mauleg na lastru pinegaña gi tatteña `nai malofan gi halum hatdin. Bien felis para hamyu ni man-sinsiyu gi kinimiten assistimientu para i tautau-ta. Dañkulu yan ma`ug na bendision para hamyu lokue`.

Obligasion Saina: Gi todu kinalamten-ta, animu na pinetsige pot mantension familia. Esta ha mamattit siha i mañaina-ta pot para u prebeniye suffisiente nesessidat kada unu desde neñkanu`, doga yan trahi. Tai finagpu` na obligasion.

I animosu na saina ti umahñau dumoblague` malag i lanchu gi finagpu` cho`chu` para u assiste pinegsai yan tinanum. Maseha dididi` lau guaha ayudun usun familia. Dispues de minachum atdau `nai ha birague` tatte gi gima` umo`mag, sumena yan dumeskansa.

Makat na finapus antes, durante yan dispues de geran dos. Animu i mañainata gi inaligau mantension i tropa. Mauleg sa` kumayao ñaihon i sapet na maladisposision Japones gi hinalum Amerikanu`.

Konsidera ya hita lokue` sumufa` ayu na barañkan chalan linala`. Sali hit de papagu` na sinetnan sunen sisonyan. Kontodu siempre asientun tinanum fadañg ta usune yan haf` takone` gi tasi yan halum tanu`.

Lamegai giya hita fumaposgue linala` tradision natibu gi gualu` yan tasi. Ni unu pininu` lau todu man-felis gi karera mona. Mit grasias pot bendisionta ginen i Saina! Maseha ti guiyaya libianu lau enfin man-la`la` hit felis!

Asun Botkan: Buente i umafuetsas industrian casino guine pine`lun niha na che`chu` menhalom. Lau atan fan i bibu na kinalamten nasion siha gi oriyata kau ti magahet na diariu machochoneg adelantun mismu industrian casino gi tanu` niha.

Dos años yan pa`gu ya mababa industrian casino giya Japon, haf` mohon chansata man-mamatinas koble gi halum te`ug na kompitensia? Achametgot ekonomian iya Marianas yan Japon? Haf` `ste na binalutan kulot apu na sirenu ginen pagpag botkan gi ge`hilu`. Hita yan hita man-a`atotpi gi birada.

Kutturan Natibu: Guaha `nai man-diskuidau hit umatende mañainata piot gi inamku` niha. I kutturata ginen relihion-ta ni pumega respetu yan yine`ase` gi korasonta kumu mañgilisyanu.

Muñga maletke obligasion-mu kumu patgon sa` mas megai bendision `nai unna`e attension nesessidat amku` na saina-mu. I mamamaila` para hagu i husasañgan guine. Un` agradesi yangin mismu famaguon-mu dumisattende hau gi inamko`mu? Kutturata attension yan ayudu gi mañaina-ta!

Satbasion: Guaha finu` mañainata: Manu hechura esta i seputtura. Kumeke ileghu na manu i pinayonmu siempre un` kilili` guatu gi naftan-mu. Guiya este i pinegamu `nai malofan hau gi halum hatdin. I mauleg na checho`mu solu konsuelumu!

Lau i amiguhu Magoo ti konfotme. Piniloña na pot matan tautau husasañgan. Hombre entalu` mame na dos ti chagu` i difirensia gi homhum lasas yan machebañg fasun mame. Esta ti na`magof malitratu sa` kada ratu un` li`e na malefa i Saina tihana` kabales i patten mame. Hombre, pot chaleg!

**Finu` Chamorro:** Guaha siha palabra ni mauleg tafana`gue famaguon-ta gi karera mona. Gi bandan nina`e, guaha "a`ok", i otru "ika". I mefe`na propiu gi taiguihe fandañgo pat fina` gupot. I otru pot finatai. I uttimu i mananana`lu `an gai achaki i prohimu.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ignacio, the blind soldier

The Blind Soldier was an elementary school play during the Japanese time here on Saipan. The play was about a blind Japanese soldier and his severely wounded companion. The problem was that the wounded soldier could not get up and about. And his companion soldier was blind. They wanted to reach their regiment or at least a field clinic for treatment. So the problem was how the two soldiers could reach their group or a field clinic. The two disabled soldiers came up with a brilliant idea on how to move about regardless of their being severely handicapped. The blind solder was to carry on his back the severely wounded soldier. The wounded soldier was to give the blind guy direction where to go or to avoid obstacles. The idea worked.

And my brother's class performed the play, with my brother Achu' as the blind soldier, and one of his classmate the wounded soldier, giving direction as to where to move and what to avoid. The performance, with a battlefield background sound and music, was considered splendid and realistic by those who attended the play. Not long afterward, my brother was invited to Aomori city as a reward for his splendid performance. He went there and he said he enjoyed his travel to Japan and his stay at Aomori. He told us he was thankful for being invited to Aomori. He added that he really enjoyed the crispy, sweet apple harvested in Aomori. He pointed out that Aomori is the land of great apple and that he would like to see Aomori and its apple again.

Achu' was the oldest boy in our family. He was quite smart, serious, and rational. He learned to play the violin while still young. My oldest sister, Mariquita, would help him whenever Achu' encountered a difficult musical phrase. Mariquita played piano, which she learned while a postulant in the Mercedarian convent. The classical music that Achu' learned in his younger days stuck with him, and he would whistle those tunes every so often. My sister Mariquita said that Achu's favorite composer was Johannes Brahm. And it did make sense. Brahm's musical platform involved intensive violin performance, the gypsy tempo. Of course he also liked music by other composers that involved the violin since he was learning to play the instrument. His gang, until his death, was Denang, my second oldest sister.

Denang was a bundle of rascality, and full of it. She was a tree-climbing clown, while Achu' was the serious one. Many years after the end of World War II, Achu' dreamed of visiting the beautiful Aomori he had seen in his youth. The Aomori of the crispy, sweet apple. That's what he would say. So he started saving his money so that he could fulfill his dream of visiting Aomori before he died. This time he would take his wife, Maria, to show her the beautiful Aomori. He would have Maria try the crisp, sweet Aomori apple, and a tour of the city. He would take her on the train like he did coming over to the city. He remembered every railroad track that went to Aomori. Achu' would say that Aomori was pretty and cool, and Maria would say, "yes." And the apple was the sweetest in the world, and Maria would say, "yes."

Because his performance was considered outstanding as the blind Japanese soldier taking direction from his wounded companion that he was carrying "piggy-backed," my brother was invited by some Japanese to go to Aomori. And he fulfilled his dream of going to Aomori one more time. My brother, Achu', died not long ago after a long illness.

Rudolfo M. Sablan
Garapan, Saipan

Life side by side

By GREG BORJA
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month! The National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities, the Association of University Centers on Disabilities, and the National Disability Rights Network have created a campaign that seeks to raise awareness about the inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in all facets of community life, as well as barriers that people with disabilities sometimes face when connecting with the communities they live in.

This week, March 27-31, 2017, the focus is on life side by side. A person is said to have a developmental disability if they have a mental and/or physical disability that substantially limits three or more major life activities and manifested prior to age 22. In the CNMI three groups that assist people with developmental disabilities are the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities, the University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, and the Protection & Advocacy for Developmental Disabilities program. Also known as the DD Tri-Agency, they work to ensure that people with developmental disabilities have the supports they need to live side by side with others on our islands.

The CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities are men and women who are committed to improving the lives of hundreds of CNMI residents with disability. We are passionate and are focused on issues related to self-determination, education, employment, transportation, housing, recreation, healthcare and overall quality of life of people with developmental disabilities and their families. Their mission is to promote systems change to ensure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have the same opportunities as others in the community.

The Northern Marianas College - University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Program is committed to the development of culturally complimentary outcomes while promoting equal opportunity, independence, productivity, promoting self-determination, and supporting an improved quality of life for people with developmental disabilities in their villages, the Commonwealth, and the world around us.

The Protection & Advocacy for Developmental Disabilities program is administered by the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. and is the state-designated P&A program that protects the civil and legal rights of people with developmental disabilities who have been subject to abuse, neglect and/or have other rights violations.

The CNMI Tri-Agency works to ensure that people with developmental disabilities are given an equal opportunity to live, work, and play on our islands as we experience life side by side.

For more information on the programs and services available to support people with developmental disabilities, please contact CDD at 664-7000/1; or UCEDD at 234-5498 Ext. 6808/6802; or NMPASI at 235-7273/4.

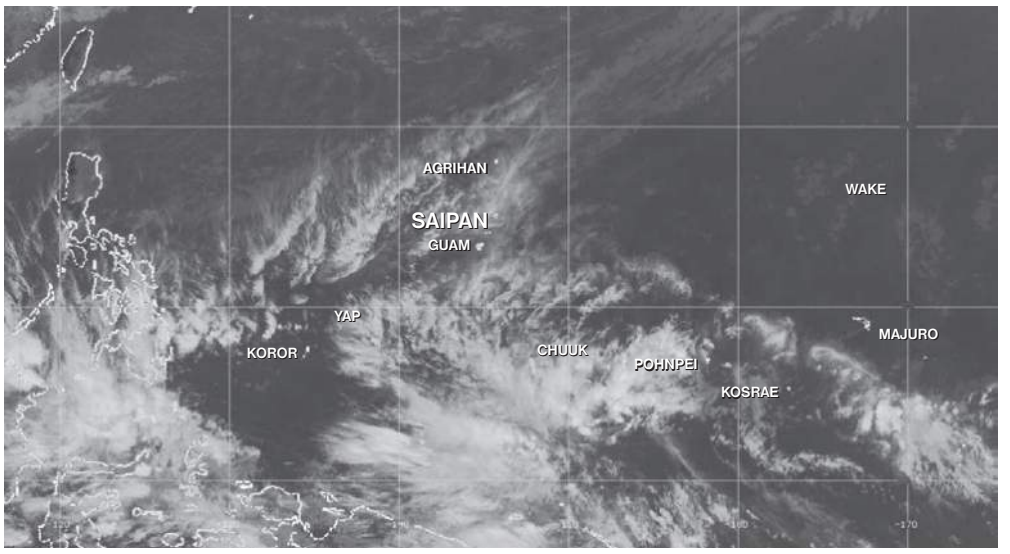
Greg Borja is a projects specialist of the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems Inc.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Breezy. Partly sunny with isolated showers. Northeast winds 20 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼78°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲88° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:39 AM, TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

All of the guidance is in agreement with dry air aloft over the Marianas, so any moisture is at the lowest levels and fairly limited. The more abundant moisture is further south, where there are showers and even a few thunderstorms. A shear line will approach on Wednesday and wind and seas will increase and cloud cover will be on the uptick as well. However, precip chances will remain low. An isolated shower is possible but not much more. Wind will increase to around 25 kt with the approach of a shear line Wednesday into Thursday. Seas will increase to 7 to 10 feet. A Small Craft Advisory looks likely, and a High Surf Advisory is possible. Wind and seas will decrease by Friday.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Rain	86 | 77 °F
Palau	Thunderstorms	85 | 77 °F
Yap	Thunderstorms	86 | 71 °F
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	84 | 80 °F
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	84 | 79 °F
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85 | 79 °F
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	86 | 80 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Thunderstorms	72 | 62 °F
Beijing	Mostly sunny	68 | 44 °F
Hong Kong	Partly cloudy	77 | 70 °F
Honolulu	Sunny	84 | 71 °F
London	Cloudy	61 | 52 °F
Los Angeles	Sunny	83 | 57 °F
Manila	Partly Cloudy	92 | 78 °F
Melbourne	Mostly sunny	81 | 51 °F
Miami	Partly Cloudy	83 | 68 °F
New York	Partly cloudy	60 | 34 °F
Osaka	Cloudy	57 | 45 °F
Paris	Partly cloudy	67 | 47 °F
Pusan	Partly cloudy	58 | 34 °F
Rome	Sunny	65 | 45 °F
Salem	Rain	54 | 43 °F
San Francisco	Sunny	66 | 55 °F
Seoul	Sunny	60 | 35 °F
Tokyo	Partly cloudy	56 | 41 °F
Washington, DC	Partly cloudy	64 | 37 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:31 AM	LOW TIDE	0.2
8:28 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.05
2:55 PM	LOW TIDE	0.16
8:56 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.05

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:14 AM	6:29 PM
Thursday	6:14 AM	6:29 PM
Friday	6:13 AM	6:29 PM
Saturday	6:12 AM	6:29 PM
Sunday	6:11 AM	6:29 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	7:01 AM	7:38 PM	-
Thursday	7:50 AM	8:38 PM	-
Friday	8:41 AM	9:39 PM	-
Saturday	9:34 AM	10:40 PM	-
Sunday	10:30 AM	11:41 PM	-

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 25, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:35am	6:25am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	3:10pm	7:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily
ZE582	4:25pm	8:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	2:55am	6:10am	1, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	4, 5

SAIPAN-JEJU (CJU)

7C3433	3:55am	7:30am	3, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:50am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:30am	Daily via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

UO43	4:40am	8:10am	1, 3, 4, 6
HX077	2:15am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6391/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	8:25am	1:45pm	Daily
ZE581	10:15am	3:35pm	Daily
7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	8:15pm	1:35am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	8:30pm	1:20am+1	6, 7
OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
7C3452	9:35pm	2:15am+1	3, 4

JEJU (CJU)-SAIPAN

7C3434	10:05pm	2:40am+1	2, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:50pm	12:45am+1	3, 7
UO42	4:50pm	12:05am+1	2, 6
UO42	6:05pm	1:10am+1	1
UO42	6:10pm	1:10am+1	4
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

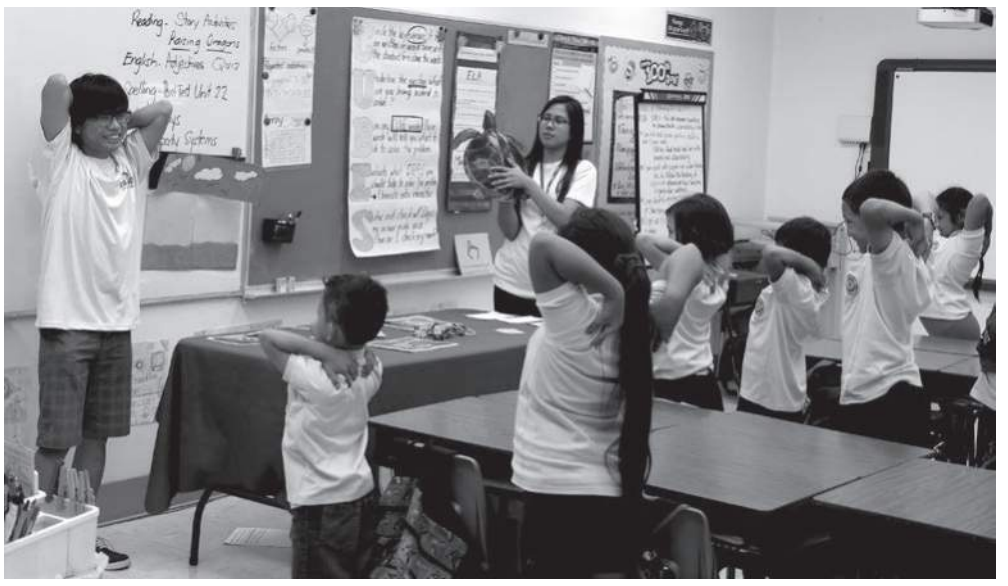
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

T-SQUAD TALKS TURTLES

UOG Sea Grant pilots internship for college students



Seanne Clement and Marcel Jardeleza teach turtle anatomy at Astumbo Elementary.

TREVOR BOYKIN

Did you know that adult female sea turtles can lay up to 100 eggs in a nest? Did you know this group of eggs is called a clutch? Did you even know that turtles lay eggs?

Second and third graders learned this and more if they were lucky enough to experience one of the 35-plus classroom sessions led by University of Guam Sea Grant Turtle Education outreach interns. Interns, or the self-dubbed "T-Squad," did outreach consisting of a turtle nesting puppet show, six-foot life-size turtle cutouts, and maps of migration by Guam-born turtles.

Over 30 applicants vied for two internship slots, with a team eventually comprised of UOG undergraduates Marcel Jardeleza, Seanne Clemente, Cody Dowless, and Guam Community College student Natividad "Dottie" Rosario.

Exploring science and education careers

In December the T-Squad familiarized themselves with turtle research in Guam. They rode along with conservation officers, reviewed scientific literature, interviewed Department of Agriculture and UnderWater World employees, observed teachers, and went on turtle nest surveying trips.

"Doing the nest surveys, it was neat to see the amount of effort others put into protecting these animals. It made me proud to be a part of something that's benefitting the environment," said Dowless.

The T-Squad spent most of January developing an hour-long presentation for elementary students, writing a script and making educational props.

"Showing kids that they can dedicate their whole lives to something like conservation means a lot to me, because I never had that as a kid. In time, they are going to be the next ones doing presentations or conservation work like this, and then, they'll be the ones leading the scientific community in solving the problems that their generation will face," said Clemente.

School presentations

The T-Squad spent February visiting eight elementary schools. Altogether, interns conducted over 37 classroom presentations, distributed 1,012 turtle coloring books called *Haggan Tåsi Siha* in Chamorro and English, and reached 1,253 students and teachers. The team completes sessions in March.

Elementary school visits prompted memorable experiences, usually elicited by questions such as "How do the turtles get away from the sharks?" and the infamous "Where do turtles poop?" However, some things were always a surprise despite extensive intern preparation.

"We were down at a third grade class. We walked in to begin setting up, and as I was talking to the teacher, I see in my peripheral vision a little boy vomit all over the floor. The rest of the presentation was fine, but that is something I won't soon forget," said Dowless.

Rosario's background in primary education studies especially proved useful, as she led techniques for student management.

"As a team, we created a method called the turtles breathe. When the kids get out of focus, we'd say, 'Turtles Breathe!' then they stick out their arms like flippers and take a deep breath, which imitates the way turtles take a breath out of the water," said Jardeleza.

The T-Squad discovered other means of retaining students' interest.

"Trying to insert something the kids can relate to, such as a reference from a movie like *Finding Nemo* or *Moana* helped also," says Clemente.

"Outreach efforts like these are still fairly fresh, and through education and early exposure, kids can definitely grow to understand the importance of conserving our fauna," said Clemente. "Presentations like these are a good step in pushing kids in that direction."

Dottie Rosario and Cody Dowless wow Chief Brodie Elementary audience with a hawksbill turtle cutout.

ANDREW GUMATAOTAO

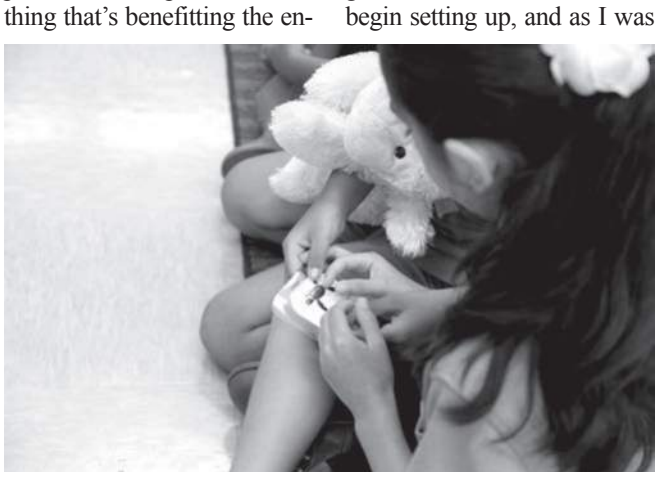
For more information about the Turtle Education outreach Internship and the *Haggan Tåsi Siha* coloring book, contact Marie Auyong, assistant instructor for Sea Grant, at auyongm@triton.uog.edu or call 685-4355.

About UOG Sea Grant

The National Sea Grant College Program is a partnership between universities and the federal government's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, an agency within the Department of Commerce. The Sea Grant network includes more than 3,000 scientists, engineers, public outreach experts, educators, and students. Based in the UOG Cooperative Extension & Outreach Service, UOG Sea Grant brings the science of coastal resources to Guam's people as one of 33 programs across the nation. To learn more about University of Guam Sea Grant, see www.cnas-re.uog.edu. ***(UOOG)***

Interns, volunteers, and Department of Agriculture biologist CJ Cayanan, right, check out the beginning of a nest.

TREVOR BOYKIN



Children pass around life-size cards of turtle hatchlings.

TREVOR BOYKIN

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-HSEM-113

SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 21, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE, DELIVER & INSTALLATION OF TWO (2) MEDIUM INTENSITY OBSTRUCTION LIGHT SYSTEM FOR THE CNMI HSEMA MT. TAPOCHAU COMMUNICATION TOWER"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-BID CONFERENCE MEETING IS SCHEDULED ON APRIL 07, 2017 AT 10:00 A.M. AT THE HSEMA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER, CAPITOL HILL.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ GERALD J. DELEON GUERRERO
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR HSEM

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR OF P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-BECQ/DEQ-105

SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 21, 2017 TIME: 9:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF A 4X4 (4 DOORS) PICK UP TRUCK FOR THE BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND COASTAL QUALITY, DIV. OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, **LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN**, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

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/S/ FRANK M. RABAULIMAN
ADMINISTRATOR OF BECQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR OF P&S

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

It is the policy of the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) to limit hiring to qualified US workers, as restricted by CNMI law, and that equal opportunity be given to all qualified US worker applicants regardless of age, sex or sexual orientation, religion, marital status, political status, veterans status, disability or place of origin.

Opening Date: 03/20/17
Closing Date: 04/03/17*

JVA#17-003: Community Projects Coordinator II
Annual Salary: $25,791.92 - $27,081.51**
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

JVA#17-004: Marketing Specialist I
Annual Salary: $23,394.02 - $24,563.73**
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

JVA#17-007: Administrative Assistant
Annual Salary: $18,329.83 - $25,791.92**
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

*If not filled, the vacancy announcement will be continued and applications will be reviewed every two weeks thereafter until the search is closed. Deadlines that fall on a non-business day will be extended to the next business day.

** The salary given will be determined by the qualifications of the appointee.

Interested persons may contact the Marianas Visitors Authority Office at (670) 664-3200/01 for more detailed information on position description. A completed application must be submitted together with the required documents for consideration until search is closed. A resume may be attached, but the application form must be filled out in full. MVA is an equal opportunity employer.

Northern Marianas College

P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6858/6855 • Fax: (670) 235-3696
Website: http://www.marianas.edu

Announcement No. 17-017
Position Title: Extension Aide I
Department: Cooperative Research, Extension and Education Service (CREES)
Pay Level & Step: 10/02 Annual Salary: $15,067.80
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: March 23, 2017
Closing Date: April 03, 2017 or Until Filled

Applications must be submitted by 4:40 pm on the closing date. If there are no qualified applicants or the set of qualified applicants is deemed an insufficient pool, the closing date will be extended for two-week periods for further submission and review of applications until the search is closed. Deadlines that fall on a non-business day will be extended to the next business day. All salaries are subject to availability of funds. The College is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Business

Trump takes aim at Obama's efforts to curb global warming

WASHINGTON (AP)—Moving forward with a campaign pledge to unravel former President Barack Obama's sweeping plan to curb global warming, President Donald Trump will sign an executive order Tuesday that will suspend, rescind or flag for review more than a half-dozen measures in an effort to boost domestic energy production in the form of fossil fuels.

As part of the roll-back, Trump will initiate a review of the Clean Power Plan, which restricts greenhouse gas emissions at coal-fired power plants. The regulation, which was the former president's signature effort to curb carbon emissions, has been the subject of long-running legal challenges by Republican-led states and those who profit from burning oil, coal and gas.

Trump, who has called global warming a "hoax" invented by the Chinese, has repeatedly criticized the power-plant rule and others as an attack on American workers and the struggling U.S. coal industry. The contents of the order were outlined to reporters in a sometimes tense briefing with a senior White House official, whom aides insisted speak without attribution, despite President Trump's criticism of the use of unnamed sources.

The official at one point appeared to break with mainstream climate science, denying familiarity with widely publicized concerns about the potential adverse economic impacts of climate change, such as rising sea levels and more extreme weather.

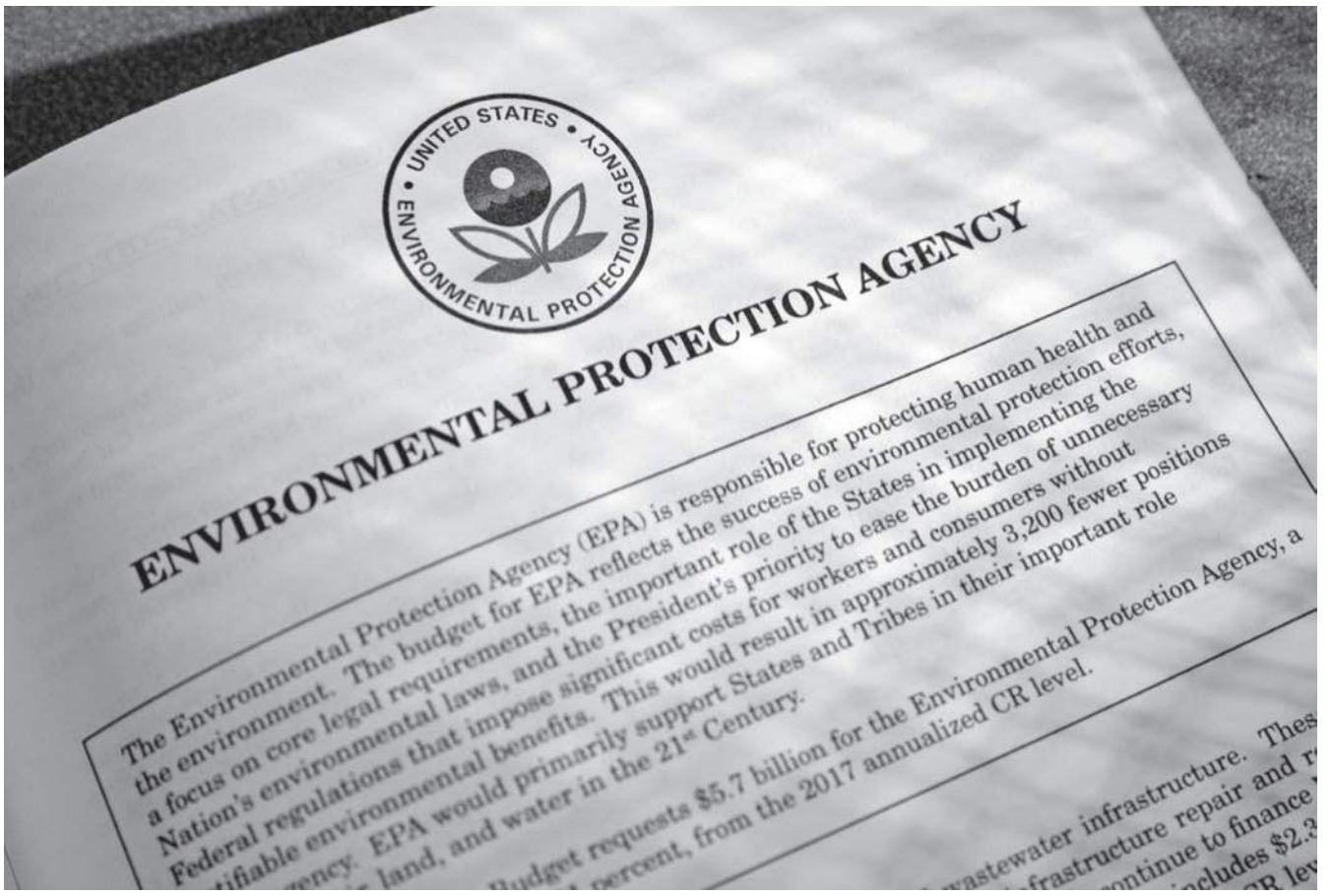
In addition to pulling back from the Clean Power Plan, the administration will also lift a 14-month-old moratorium on new coal leases on federal lands.

The Obama administration had imposed a three-year moratorium on new federal coal leases in January 2016, arguing that the $1 billion-a-year program must be modernized to ensure a fair financial return to taxpayers and address climate change.

Trump accused his predecessor of waging a "war on coal" and boasted in a speech to Congress that he has made "a historic effort to massively reduce job-crushing regulations," including some that threaten "the future and livelihoods of our great coal miners."

The order will also chip away at other regulations, including scrapping language on the "social cost" of greenhouse gases. It will initiate a review of efforts to reduce the emission of methane in oil and natural gas production as well as a Bureau of Land Management hydraulic fracturing rule, to determine whether those reflect the president's policy priorities.

It will also rescind Obama-era executive orders and memoranda, including one that addressed climate change and national security and one that sought to prepare the country for the impacts of climate change.


UNITED STATES • ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for protecting human health and the environment. The budget for EPA reflects the success of environmental protection efforts, a focus on core legal requirements, the important role of the States in implementing the Nation's environmental laws, and the President's priority to ease the burden of unnecessary Federal regulations that impose significant costs for workers and consumers without tifiable environmental benefits. This would result in approximately 3,200 fewer positions gency. EPA would primarily support States and Tribes in their important role s land, and water in the 21st Century.
Budget requests $5.7 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency, a percent, from the 2017 annualized CR level.
wastewater infrastructure. Thes
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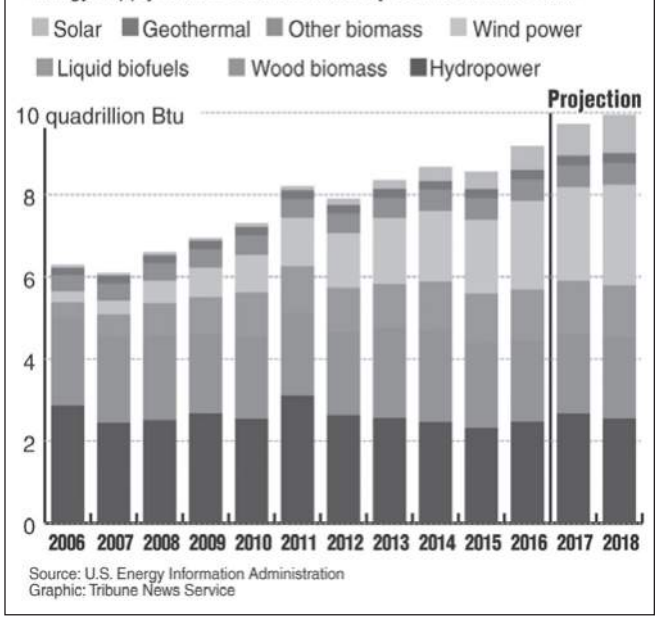
CR lev

AP

In this March 16, 2017, file photo, proposals for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in President Donald Trump's first budget are displayed at the Government Printing Office in Washington.



Kushner agrees to speak to Senate panel about Russia

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump's son-in-law has volunteered to answer questions before the Senate Intelligence Committee about arranging meetings with the Russian ambassador and other officials, the White House confirmed Monday.

Jared Kushner has agreed to speak to the committee, which is conducting an investigation into Russia's interference in the 2016 election, including whether there are any ties between Trump associates and the Kremlin, the White House said.

Kushner is the fourth Trump associate to offer to be interviewed by the congressional committees looking into the murky Russia ties. Trump's former campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, Trump adviser Carter Page and Trump associate Roger Stone last week volunteered to speak to the committee as well.

The White House noted that throughout the 2016 presidential campaign and transition Kushner served as the main contact with foreign governments and officials. Trump associates' meetings with the Russian ambassador during the transition period have come under question, in part because those who met with him were not immediately forthcoming about the meetings.

It was not immediately clear when or how the Senate questioning would take place or whether Kushner would be under oath. An official familiar with the Senate investigation said that the details of the interview have not yet been set, and the Trump associates will speak to the committee on the committee's terms. That these Trump associates volunteered to be interviewed does not prevent the committee from issuing a subpoena for testimony. The official spoke on condition of anonymity in order to discuss details of the Senate investigation.

Lawmakers announced investigations into possible ties between Trump's campaign and Russian officials and whether Russia meddled in the 2016 election.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Supreme Court won't restore $7.25B swipe fees settlement

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court will not restore a $7.25 billion settlement between merchants and Visa Inc. and MasterCard Inc. over credit card transaction fees. The justices did not comment Monday in leaving place a ruling by the federal appeals court in New York that tossed out the settlement in a lawsuit that began in 2005. A group of 19 merchants and trade groups claimed in the lawsuit that Visa and MasterCard conspired to fix fees charged to stores for handling credit card payments. A federal judge approved a settlement in 2013, but some retailers and consumer groups objected. The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said the proposed settlement was unfair to merchants that wouldn't have received any money.

Uber resumes self-driving car program after brief suspension

NEW YORK (AP)—Uber says it is resuming its self-driving car program in Arizona and Pittsburgh after it was suspended following a crash over the weekend. The company had also grounded self-driving cars in San Francisco over the weekend but they resumed operating earlier on Monday. The difference between the California program versus the ones in Arizona and Pennsylvania is that California does not allow passengers to ride in the vehicles. The company said Monday that it paused the operations over the weekend to better understand what happened in Arizona, but feels confident in returning the cars to the road. There were no serious injuries reported in the incident in Tempe, Arizona on Friday night.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
20,550.98	2,341.59	5,840.37
-45.74	-2.39	+11.64
-0.22%	-0.10%	0.20%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.3154	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7673	Russian Ruble	56.8324
British Pound	0.7973	Indian Rupee	65.15	Singapore Dollar	1.3938
Canadian Dollar	1.339	Japanese Yen	110.704	South Korean Won	1112
Chinese Yuan	6.8845	Malaysian Ringgit	4.416	Swiss Franc	0.9865
Euro	0.9212	New Zealand Dollar	1.423	Taiwan Dollar	30.17
		Philippine Peso	50.18	Thailand Baht	34.4

Nation

Screams alert residents to fire that killed 3 in Oakland

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Awakened by screams of "fire," Michael Jones bolted out of bed in the pre-dawn darkness Monday at the dilapidated Oakland apartment building he calls home, instinctively pounded on the doors of his elderly neighbors and ushered them to safety—walkers and all.

Jones, 43, then found Princess, the "house" pit bull, cowering in the backyard, and the two ran out the front door as glass shattered from the heat.

A few hours later, he and the dog stood across the street, staring at the smoldering wooden structure that housed some 80 low-income residents, many of whom complained that they had not heard alarms, felt sprinklers or found fire extinguishers as they fled the substandard living conditions.

Jones said a prayer of gratitude for surviving the fire that killed three people and hurt four others, including two children. One remained missing.

The Alameda County coroner identified one of the victims as 64-year-old Edwarn Anderson, of Oakland.

Oakland Fire Battalion Chief Erik Logan said some people were hanging from windows and others were in fire escapes when firefighters arrived at the building.

The fire broke out in the rundown neighborhood nearly three months after a warehouse called the Ghost Ship caught fire and killed 36 people attending an unlicensed concert about five miles (eight kilometers) away.

The fires have raised questions about the use of some buildings in the city for residences amid a shortage of affordable housing in the San Francisco Bay Area.

"At least the rats are gone," said Angela Taylor, 62, clutching her purse, the only possession she managed to get out of a room she paid $550 a month to live in. "It's the wrong purse, but it's better than nothing. A lady needs her purse."

In 2010, Oakland allowed the owner of the 40-unit building that burned Monday to convert the structure into transitional housing for recovering drug addicts, people struggling with homelessness and others, records show.

Since then, it has been the subject of several building department citations and investigations. City records show building officials verified complaints filed by the nonprofit organization that rents most of the building about deferred maintenance.

Racist sword killer says he'd mulled racial attack for years

NEW YORK (AP)—A white racist accused of fatally stabbing a 66-year-old stranger on a Manhattan street because he was black says he'd intended it as "a practice run" in a mission to deter interracial relationships.

James Harris Jackson, 28, spoke with a reporter for the Daily News (http://nydn.us/2nXQFgo) at New York City's Rikers Island jail complex.

He said he envisioned a white woman thinking: "Well, if that guy feels so strongly about it, maybe I shouldn't do it."

The victim, Timothy Caughman, who was remembered as a gentleman and a good neighbor, was alone and collecting bottles for recycling last week when he was attacked from behind with a sword. He staggered, bleeding, into a police station and later died at a hospital.

Jackson was in court Monday, as prosecutors charged him with murder as an act of terrorism in addition to the murder as a hate crime charge he'd already been facing. Jackson did not speak, and his attorney had no comment.

Childhood friends of Caughman, who grew up in Queens, attended the hearing and said he was a kind man who didn't deserve the brutality.

"Tim Caughman did not deserve to die like that," said Portia Clark. "Nobody does. I mean, come on, we're black, white, yellow, brown—that's ridiculous. We're trying to get along."

Carl Nimmons wept outside court after seeing Jackson. "It really hurt me to see that man, because I can't do nothing about it. I don't have the power to do anything about it," he said.

In the interview, Jackson said in retrospect, he would rather have killed "a young thug" or "a successful older black man with blondes ... people you see in Midtown. These younger guys that put white girls on the wrong path."

Veteran homelessness: Trump's budget could hurt efforts

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—The push to end homelessness among veterans would suffer without the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, which is up for elimination under President Donald Trump's proposed budget, nonprofits and local officials say.

The council coordinates the efforts of 19 federal agencies that play a role in preventing and ending homelessness among all Americans. But the strides made with the subset of veterans—for whom homelessness has been effectively ended in three states and dozens of communities amid a concerted effort—make the proposed cuts particularly upsetting to advocates.

Homeless advocates in any given state consult the council, whose annual budget is about $3.5 million, on which strategies are working elsewhere as they seek to house veterans. They worry momentum will slow.

"We've learned how to end homelessness," said Nonie Brennan, chief executive of the nonprofit All Chicago. "It would be a tremendous shame if we were not able to continue to implement these strategies in our communities across the country."

Adding to the ire and confusion, the budget proposal also says the Trump administration will support Department of Veterans Affairs programs for homeless and at-risk veterans and their families, but doesn't elaborate. Trump, who promised on the campaign trail to support veterans, wants to give the VA a 6 percent increase.

Still, the federal government needs someone to make sure housing resources are well spent, and to look across agencies for solutions instead of just down at their own, advocates say.

"Without coordination and oversight and giving some thought to how the money should best be spent, the money may not go to the people who need it most," said Hank Hughes, of the New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness.

The White House's $1.15 trillion plan, released this month, emphasizes military and other security-related spending and slashes many domestic programs. The proposal is the first step in a lengthy process that requires congressional approval.

Proponents of small government praised it. The interagency council, created during the Reagan administration, is one of 19 independent agencies for which Trump proposed eliminating funding.

AP

In this photo taken Thursday, March 23, 2017, Lisa Hooper rakes debris from in front of the tent where she lives in a greenbelt near a freeway, as another camper wheels a bicycle past her in Seattle. Sixteen months after he declared a state of emergency on homelessness, Seattle's mayor is asking voters in this liberal, affluent city for $55 million a year in new taxes to fight the problem. But some are pushing back, saying the city already spends millions to combat homelessness, and things appear to have gotten worse, not better.

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- **JOB TITLE: BRICK LAYER**
- **NUMBER OF OPENINGS: 200**
- **SALARY RANGE: $7.05 to $10 /Hourly**
- **JOB DUTIES:** Independently lay ceramic tiles and stone materials, obey construction arrangement and consciously complete allocated construction tasks, construct building according to work order without arbitrarily changing construction items and requirements, rapidly construct building with good quality and enough quantity during working time, get raw materials according to list of construction items, economize raw materials and eradicate waste, ensure that residual raw materials are recycled properly and stored into warehouse, ensure that raw materials are cleared after completion for customer satisfaction, pay attention to the safety of construction so as to prevent theft, fire disaster and personal injury, ensure that work order and materials order be timely checked and signed.
- **QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Familiar with dry hanging technology of stone materials; skillfully operate cutting machine, angle grinder and other special machinery for brick laying. Must have at least a few months to 1 year experience.

- **JOB TITLE: PAINTER**
- **NUMBER OF OPENINGS: 200**
- **SALARY RANGE: $7.05 to $10 /Hourly**
- **JOB DUTIES:** Conscientiously and completely finish assigned tasks with good quality, and full rate if progress, correctly use and protect paint, alcohol, banana oil, and other volatile, inflammable and explosive chemicals; safely operate equipment according to technological operation specification; eradicate fire disaster, poisoning, electrical shock, etc., abide by rules and regulation of the company without violating laws and discipline; lend paint according to requirement of technology ; master the method of roughly estimating the precision of paint, operate air compression pump, exhaust fan, etc.; correctly use and read meters(i.e., barometer, thermometer, etc.)
- **QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Familiar with the operating skill of spraying paint, must have the ability to read construction drawings, have a good command of kinds of special tools, independently paint putty and complete polish work, do surface latex decoration work, expertly pave and paste wall paper, spray paint wooden surfaces. At least a few months to 1 year of related experience and/or training, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Must have at least a few months to 1 year of experience.

- **JOB TITLE: WOODWORKER**
- **NUMBER OF OPENINGS: 300**
- **SALARY RANGE: $7.05 to $10 /Hourly**
- **JOB DUTIES:** Responsible for all work about civil engineering in construction site, arrange and elaborately construct the project according to the overall construction planning, follow the command of leader of construction team and timely complete each task assigned solve existing technique problems and quality in construction, arrange working procedures to create safe working conditions, provide written safety technique disclosure to guarantee geometric dimensioning meets drawing requirements, axes shifting must be controlled in permitted scope; deviation of standard height must not exceed norm, cooperate with other workers to well hand over working procedure, consciously abide be rules and regulations of the company, obey the arrangement of superior leaders.
- **QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Able to read construction drawings, able to skillfully operate kinds of special tools, able to install made-up wood surface, able to independently make light-steel suspension system, wall partition system, soft wall surface, and hard wall surface; comprehensively familiar with design blueprint, master design alteration, and technical disclosure of proprietors. Must have at least a few months to 1 year of experience.

- **JOB TITLE: ELECTRICIAN**
- **NUMBER OF OPENINGS: 100**
- **SALARY RANGE: $7.05 to $10 /Hourly**
- **JOB DUTIES:** Diagnose and repair electrical problems in commercial and domestic electrical systems, including fault-finding, rewiring, and monitoring Assess the parts needed for a job and place orders for those parts Conduct routine maintenance and testing on commercial and domestic electrical systems, and ensure installations are to manufacturer standards, including in fire alarms and security systems Rewire faulty electrical systems, such as lighting, heating systems, and alarms Ensure good quality workmanship which upholds company standards, complies with building codes, and follows safety requirements Work alone to find and present faults and concerns in electrical systems without receiving explicit direction
- **QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Previous Electrical Experience, Lighting, Wiring, Alarm Systems, Fire Prevention Systems, Strong Written and Verbal Communication, Electrical Maintenance

- **JOB TITLE: ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**
- **NUMBER OF OPENING: 3**
- **SALARY RANGE: $7.05 to $18 /hourly**
- **JOB DUTIES:**
  - Manages and executes administrative, project, and executive support activities associated with the office of a core division or equivalent component of the company. Reporting directly to the principal executive officer of the entity, serves as principle point of administrative contact and liaison with internal and external constituencies.
  - Provides and/or oversees the provision of direct staff support to the office manager. Provides specialist administrative services as appropriate in such areas as public/community relations, faculty, staff, general business administration; and/or development and relations, depending upon the functional area supported.
  - Oversees and administers the day-to-day activities of the office; develops policies, procedures, and systems which ensure productive and efficient office operation.
  - Provides assistance and support in problem solving, project planning and management, and development and execution of stated goals and objectives.
  - Provides and/or oversees provision of staff support to the office, to include handling walk-up and phone interactions, maintaining calendars and travel arrangements, screening, analyzing, and responding to incoming correspondence, handling day-to-day problems and situations, and provision of secretarial support.
  - Provides assistance in the understanding and interpretation of company policies and procedures, as appropriate, and ensures that office operations are in compliance with policy provisions and standards.
  - Assists in the coordination, supervision, and completion of special projects, as appropriate.
- **QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**
  - Completed degree(s) from an accredited institution that are above the minimum education requirement may be substituted for experience on a year for year basis
  - Bachelor's degree; 2 years of directly related experience managing at least one of the following functional areas: fiscal services, administration and/or human resources
  - Must be able to speak, read, and write in Mandarin
- **EXPERIENCE**
  - Five years of additional work experience directly related to the duties and responsibilities specified.

- **JOB TITLE: ACCOUNTANT**
- **NUMBER OF OPENING: 3**
- **SALARY RANGE: $7.05 to $18 /hourly**
- **JOB DUTIES:** Prepare and verify daily reports. Prepare daily income/sales and prepare daily journal entry. Prepare daily deposits of ticket sales receipts. Reconcile bank account for ticketing office. Communicate with ticketing managers and others working on the ticketing systems problems. Prepare authorized refund vouchers. Compile monthly reports. Investigate and collect returned items. Maintain returned check account. Maintain chargeback account. Prepare monthly balance sheet schedules. Preparing accounts and tax returns. Administering payrolls and controlling income and expenditure. Auditing financial information. Compiling and presenting reports, budgets, business plans, commentaries and financial statements. Financial forecasting and risk analysis.
- **QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Competency in Microsoft applications including Word, Excel and Outlook. Organizational, verbal and written communication skills a must. Attention to detail and ability to multi-task is an asset. Requires 3-year-experience. Chinese speaking preferred.

Asia

ASIAN BRIEFS

Passenger train, oil truck collision in Pakistan kills 2

ISLAMABAD (AP)—A passenger train collided with an oil tanker truck in eastern Punjab before dawn Tuesday, killing the driver and his assistant and injuring 10 others, officials said. The crash took place near the eastern city of Shaikhupura, engulfing several of the train's cars in fire, according to Railways Minister Khawaja Saad Rafique. A senior government official, Arqam Tariq, said the Karachi-bound train left Lahore, the capital of Punjab province, late Monday and collided with the truck, which was stuck on the tracks. Local television showed that at least five cars and the wrecked engine caught fire.

Powerful cyclone slams into Australia's tropical northeast

TOWNSVILLE, Australia (AP)—A powerful cyclone slammed into Australia's tropical northeast coast on Tuesday, tearing down fences, snapping trees and knocking out power to thousands, officials said. The destructive eyewall of Cyclone Debbie, a Category 4 storm packing winds up to 260 kilometers per hour (160 miles per hour), made landfall near Airlie Beach, a resort town in Queensland state, the Australian Bureau of Meteorology said in a statement. The town is a jumping-off point for the Whitsunday Islands, a popular tourist destination that has been pummeled by fierce winds that damaged roofs and knocked down palm trees. Officials warned that the slow-moving storm was likely to hover over the region for several hours before weakening as it moved inland.

Report: China's man-made S.China Sea islands nearly complete

BEIJING (AP)—A U.S. think tank says China has nearly completed construction work on three man-made islands in the South China Sea, giving it the ability to deploy combat aircraft and other military assets to the disputed region. The Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies analyzed recent satellite photos and concluded that runways, aircraft hangers, radar sites and hardened surface-to-air missile shelters have either been finished or are nearing completion. Its report appears to be the most conclusive indication yet that China is using its island-building project to give teeth to its claim over almost the entire South China Sea and its islands and reefs.

Maldives government thwarts opposition bid to oust speaker

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)—A bid by the opposition to wrest control of the Maldives' Parliament failed Monday after its lawmakers were either evicted or walked out from a vote on ousting the speaker following a dispute over problems with the electronic voting system. The government defeated a motion to oust the speaker by 48 votes with none opposing. The vote was seen a test for President Yameen Abdul Gayoom, whose control over Parliament was threatened by a new understanding between the Maldives' former strongman and its first democratically elected president.

D&Q Saipan Co., Ltd is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

SALES REPRESENTATIVE - HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

A minimum of 3 years work related experience required with a successful, proven sales record. Ideally with an Associate's Degree in Sales & Marketing or related field with experience in F&B, menu preparation & costing. Must be able to lift 50lbs. Ideally would have understanding of wine distribution. Makes outside sales calls to established customers and cold calls to potential customers. Coordinates deliveries. Researches potential products from experience, menu content or health requirements. Proficient in MS Excel, Word, Outlook. Ability to speak Mandarin, Cantonese, Japanese or Korean an advantage. Must have a valid driver's license. Availability to work evenings, holidays and weekends is also required.

Interested applicants must have their own reliable transportation. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

ACCOUNTANT

BA in Accounting and a minimum of 3 years experience is required, including preparation of financial statements, processing accounts receivables & payables and other general accounting procedures. Must possess work-related skills, have knowledge & experience in purchasing, inventory control and bank reconciliation. Proficient in various computer software: MS Excel, Word, Outlook and SAGE or similar accounting system. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Interested applicants may submit an application and/or resume at our Saipan office located in the C.T.S.I. building, Lower Base, by April 7, 2017. Applications may also be sent to: mpk@dandq-international.com. The successful applicant will be required to provide a police clearance.

D&Q is an equal opportunity employer and has a drug free work environment. Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required.

World

Rights group: Coalition isn't protecting Mosul civilians

Civil protection rescue team work on the debris of a destroyed house to recover the body of people killed during fights between Iraq security forces and Islamic State on the western side of Mosul, Iraq, Friday, March 24, 2017. AP

BAGHDAD (AP)—A recent spike in civilian casualties in Mosul suggests the U.S.-led coalition is not taking adequate precautions to prevent civilian deaths as it battles the Islamic State militant group alongside Iraqi ground forces, Amnesty International said Tuesday.

The human rights group's report follows acknowledgement from the coalition that the U.S. military was behind a March 17 strike in a western Mosul neighborhood that residents have said killed more than a hundred civilians. U.S. officials did not confirm there were civilian casualties but opened an investigation.

The report also cites a second strike on Saturday that it said killed "up to 150 people." The U.S.-led coalition said in a statement that it was investigating multiple strikes in western Mosul that allegedly resulted in civilian deaths.

Evidence gathered on the ground in Mosul "points to an alarming pattern of U.S.-led coalition airstrikes which have destroyed whole houses with entire families inside," the report stated.

It said any failure to take precautions to prevent civilian casualties would be "in flagrant violation of international humanitarian law."

Iraqi forces began the assault on IS-held Mosul in October after months of preparation and buildup. In January, Iraq declared east Mosul "fully liberated" and government forces are now battling to retake the city's western half.

Civilians, humanitarian groups and monitoring officials have repeatedly warned of the possibility of increased civilian casualties in western Mosul due to the higher density of the population and the increased reliance on airstrikes and artillery. Faced with their toughest fight against IS yet, Iraqi and coalition forces have increasingly turned to airstrikes and artillery to clear and hold territory in Mosul's west.

Unlike its previous past fights against IS, Iraq's government made the decision to instruct Mosul civilians to remain in their homes. In the battles for Fallujah and Ramadi, those cities were entirely emptied of their civilian population as Iraqi forces battled IS. In Mosul, the Iraqi government said it asked civilians to remain in place to prevent large-scale displacement.

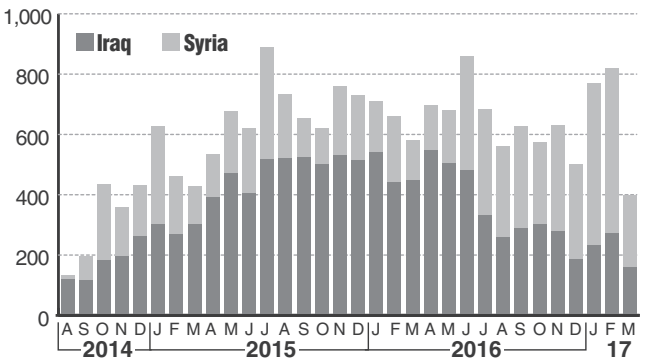
When the operation to retake Mosul was launched, more than a million people were estimated to still be living in Mosul. Today, the United Nations estimates about 400,000 people remain trapped in IS-held neighborhoods in the city.

Amnesty International's report quoted survivors and eyewitnesses of airstrikes that have killed civilians as saying "they did not try to flee as the battle got underway because they received repeated instructions from the Iraqi authorities to remain in their homes."

Airstrikes in Iraq and Syria

According to a report by the independent monitoring group Airwars, 19,139 coalition airstrikes have been launched in Iraq and Syria, with a minimum of 2,715 estimated civilian casualties

Total number of strikes per month *(Aug. 2014 – Mar. 20, 2017)*



Source: AP, Airwars
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

Nuclear arms ban talks begin at UN, but US, others boycott

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—U.N. talks aimed at banning nuclear weapons began Monday, but the United States, Russia, China and other nuclear-armed nations are sitting out a discussion they see as impractical.

Supporters of the potential pact say it's time to push harder toward eliminating atomic weapons than nations have been doing through the nearly 50-year-old Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

With international tensions rising while public awareness of the nuclear threat has waned, "the need for progress on nuclear disarmament has rarely been as urgent as it is today," U.N. Under Secretary-General for disarmament Kim Won-soo said as the talks opened.

More than 100 countries voted for a U.N. General Assembly resolution last year to start discussions, with nations including Austria, Brazil and Ireland leading the effort.

But the U.S. and several other nuclear powers say a ban won't work and the world should instead stick with a more gradual approach.

"As a mom, as a daughter, there is nothing I want more for my family than a world with no nuclear weapons. But we have to be realistic," U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley said as she and colleagues from Britain, France and about 20 other nations, not all of them nuclear states, gathered Monday outside the General Assembly hall to show opposition to the talks starting inside.

WORLD BRIEFS

Russian protest leader Alexei Navalny gets 15 days in jail

MOSCOW (AP)—The wave of nationwide demonstrations that shook Russia's long dormant political scene over the weekend showed a new face of protest: mostly teenage demonstrators driven by accusations of high-level official corruption, glaring amid the nation's painful two-year recession. A year before facing re-election, President Vladimir Putin has a dilemma: to further tighten the screws or to devise more artful means for keeping a lid on dissent. On Monday, a Moscow court handed a 15-day jail term to the protest organizer, Alexei Navalny, whose charisma and social media savvy helped rally the young. Navalny was arrested as he walked to a protest in Moscow on Sunday and spent the night in jail before showing up in court. Police have arrested more than 1,000 people for taking part in the unauthorized protest in the capital, and many of them face jail sentences or fines. Navalny's anti-corruption foundation has promised to offer legal assistance to all those who were arrested.

Official: Canada expected to legalize marijuana by July 2018

TORONTO (AP)—Canadians should be able to smoke marijuana legally by July 1, 2018, a senior government official said Monday. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's Liberal government will introduce legislation to legalize recreational marijuana the week of April 10th and it should become law by July next year, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity due to lack of authorization to discuss the upcoming legislation. Trudeau has long promised to legalize recreational pot use and sales.

Focus

Red Bull heir enjoys jet-set life 4 years after hit-and-run

An image posted to the Instagram account of Porpeer Salin Suyarnsettakorn on July 2, 2015, and displayed on a computer in Bangkok on Monday, March 27, 2017, shows Vorayuth "Boss" Yoovidhya, whose grandfather co-founded energy drink company Red Bull, standing next to a black Porsche with customized license plates in London. Vorayuth is accused of killing a Thai police officer in a hit-and-run in 2012, yet he still has not appeared to face charges.

AP

BANGKOK (AP)—The Ferrari driver who allegedly slammed into a motorcycle cop, dragged him along the road and then sped away from the mangled body took just hours to find, as investigators followed a drip, drip, drip trail of brake fluid up a street, down an alley, and into the gated estate of one of Thailand's richest families.

The prosecution of Red Bull heir Vorayuth "Boss" Yoovidhya, however, has been delayed for close to five years. The times when Vorayuth has been called in on charges, he hasn't shown up, claiming through his attorney that he was sick or out of the country on business. And while statutes of limitations run out on key charges this year, it's been widely assumed that he's hiding, possibly abroad, or living a quiet local life, only going out in disguise.

He isn't.

Within weeks of the accident, The Associated Press has found, Vorayuth, then 27, was back to enjoying his family's jet-set life, largely associated with the Red Bull brand, an energy drink company co-founded by his grandfather. He flies around the world on private Red Bull jets, cheers their Formula One racing team from Red Bull's VIP seats and keeps a black Porsche Carrera in London with custom license plates: B055 RBR. Boss Red Bull Racing.

Nor is he all that hard to find. Just last month, social media clues led AP reporters to Vorayuth and his family vacationing in the ancient, sacred city of Luang Prabang, Laos. The group stayed at a $1,000-a-night resort, dined in the finest restaurant, visited temples and lounged by the pool before flying home to Bangkok.

Critics say the inertia in the Red Bull heir's case is just another example of longstanding privilege for the wealthy class in Thailand, a politically tumultuous country that has struggled with rule of law for decades. The military general who came to power in a 2014 coup declared war on corruption, pledging to make Thailand an equal and fair society. But car accidents are frequently cited as an example that injustice persists, with "Bangkok's deadly rich kids," as one Thai newspaper described it, often receiving far more lenient sentences than ordinary Thais.

The Yoovidhya family attorney did not respond to AP's request to interview Vorayuth.

British historian Chris Baker, who with his Thai wife, Pasuk Phongpaichit, has written extensively about inequality, wealth and power in Thailand, said he wasn't surprised Vorayuth hasn't been prosecuted.

"There is most certainly a culture of impunity here that big people, which means roughly people with power and money, expect to be able to get away with a certain amount of wrongdoing," said Baker. "This happens so often, so constantly, it is very clearly part of the working culture."

Meanwhile, Vorayuth has been summoned again. He's due at the prosecutors' office Thursday.

Vorayuth and his siblings came of age in a private, extended family whose fortune expanded from millions to billions as they grew up. His brother is nicknamed Porsche, his sister Champagne.

Vorayuth received a British education at Bradfield College, a pastoral brick-and-stone boarding school in the Berkshire countryside. Boys wear suits and ties, and it costs $40,000 a year. Some of Thailand's wealthiest families send children there.

Back in rural Thailand, police Sgt. Maj. Wichean Glanprasert didn't have many opportunities, but he was ambitious and determined. The youngest of five, he was the first in the family to leave their coconut and palm farm for the city, the first to get a government job, to graduate from college. He paid for his parents' care as they died, and supported a sister through cancer. He had no children, but planned to put his brother's kids through college, and teased a favorite nephew he'd have to care for him in old age.

Their lives literally collided just before dawn on Sept. 3, 2012, when Vorayuth's Ferrari roared down Sukhumvit Road, one of Bangkok's main drags. The bloody accident scene made national headlines for days.

The dead policeman's brother, Pornanan Glanprasert, didn't so much hear the news as feel it. His beloved younger sibling Wichean was dead, said the caller. His crushed body was in the street.

Over the next few hours, police traced their way to the Red Bull compound. Initially investigators said a chauffeur had been behind the wheel of the car, windshield now shattered, bumper dangling. But after senior officers arrived, Vorayuth turned himself in, his cap pulled low, his father holding his arm. Later that day, the Yoovidhyas put up $15,000 bail at the police station and went home.

For Pornanan and his sisters, here was tragedy beyond belief. In the days after the death, they attended funeral rites at the temple, where Buddhist monks chanted and incense burned.

One day Vorayuth and his mother made a surprise, private visit. Dressed in black, they pressed their palms together and bowed to Sgt. Maj. Wichean's portrait.

The policeman's family painfully grieved, but they figured at least there would be justice. Wichean was a police officer. Certainly the criminal justice system would hold his killer responsible.

"At first I thought they'd follow a legal process," said Pornanan.

Now he's not so sure.

Over days and months, the case unfolded. The Yoovidhya family attorney said Vorayuth left the scene not to flee, but because he was going home to tell his father. As for blood tests showing Vorayuth was well over the legal alcohol limit, his attorney said his client was rattled by the crash and so drank "to relieve his tenseness."

Facing a flurry of public skepticism about whether affluence and influence would let Vorayuth off the hook, Bangkok's Police Commissioner Comronwit Toopgrajank promised integrity.

"We will not let this police officer die without justice. Believe me," Comronwit said. "The truth will prevail in this case. I can guarantee it."

But when he retired in 2014, the case was still unresolved. "I am disappointed," he says now.

Vorayuth's attorney met with Wichean's family, who accepted a settlement of about $100,000. In turn, they were required to sign a document promising not to press criminal charges, eliminating Thailand's legal option for victims to take suspects to court if police and prosecutors don't take action.

Pornanan says his portion of the settlement sits in the bank. Blood money, he calls it.

Since then, Vorayuth has missed

See RED BULL on Next Page

Life & Style

Hannity angry at treatment by CBS in interview

NEW YORK (AP)—Fox News Channel's Sean Hannity is calling on CBS News to release the full tape of his interview with Ted Koppel for "Sunday Morning," in which the veteran "Nightline" anchor answered "yes" when Hannity asked if Koppel thought he was bad for America.

The exchange between two different generations of television news personalities continued to resonate Monday: It was the lead "hot topic" that hosts of "The View" kicked around on their talk show.

Hannity was interviewed for the Sunday show's cover story about partisan media, and sensed some unease by Koppel when he discussed his role as an opinion host. Hannity is a fervent supporter of President Donald Trump and has attacked his opponents and traditional media outlets for how they report on the president.

"You're cynical," Hannity said.

"I am cynical, Koppel replied.

In this combination photo, Ted Koppel, left, prepares for the taping of his last broadcast of "Nightline," on Nov. 22, 2005 in Washington and Sean Hannity of Fox News, speaks during the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC), on March 4, 2016, in National Harbor, Md. AP

"Do you think we're bad for America? You think I'm bad for America?" Hannity asked.

"Yeah," Koppel said. Koppel said he lumped Hannity in with other opinion shows and that while he thought Hannity was "very good at what you do," his audience feels ideology is more important than facts.

It was one of two excerpts of Koppel's interview with Hannity that was included in the broader 10-minute story, and it quickly attracted attention. CBS News fanned it, breaking out a 45-second clip of their exchange for its website and writing a story about it.

Hannity, in a series of tweets, criticized the report as "fake edited news. I did about a 45-minute interview with CBS. They ran less than two. Why did Ted cut out my many examples of media bias?" He called on CBS to release the unedited interview so people could see the "games" being played by editors.

Hannity didn't indicate that his words were edited to make them appear misleading; he just seemed upset that so much got left on the cutting-room floor.

CBS News didn't respond to Hannity's request Monday. Koppel said he was content to let the story speak for itself.

Koppel has expressed similar opinions before. In an appearance on Fox's "The O'Reilly Factor" last year, Koppel told host Bill O'Reilly that he had changed the television landscape by taking news from being objective and dull to subjective and entertaining. When O'Reilly said that Koppel believed that "people like me have ruined the country," the former ABC newsman answered, "That's right."

In 2012, Koppel also took MSNBC's liberal host Rachel Maddow to task in a speech at the National Press Club.

"I don't want to know what she thinks about these issues," he said. "I really don't. I want to hear her informed reporting. I want to hear her interview people with that sharp mind of hers."

CBS News released a lengthier outtake of Koppel's interview with Hannity online Saturday, before the television report aired. Hannity discussed his working class background, criticisms of former President Barack Obama and his attitudes toward liberals and journalism.

"We are stuck in an ideological rut and programs like yours, popular as you are, haven't helped," Koppel said.

RED BULL

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several prosecutor orders to report to court on charges of speeding, hit-and-run, and reckless driving that caused death. Police said Vorayuth admitted he was driving, but not recklessly—the officer swerved in front of him, he said. The speeding charge expired after a year. The more serious charge of deadly hit-and-run, which police say carries a maximum six-month sentence, expires in September. Reckless driving charges expire in another 10 years if they go unchallenged.

Often when people don't show up for court, police or prosecutors collaborate to ask the court for an arrest warrant. That hasn't happened.

Complicating matters, Yoovidhya's attorney has repeatedly filed petitions claiming his client is being treated unfairly in the investigation.

Police spokesman Col. Krissana Pattanacharoen said his agency has done everything in its power to charge Vorayuth, and that they've informed his attorneys of yet another date that he must show up at the prosecutor's office to hear the charges: March 30, 2017.

"I am not saying it is a case where the rich guy will get away with it," said Krissana. "I can't answer that question. But what I can answer is, if you look at the timeline here, what we did, by far there is nothing wrong with the inquiry officers who are carrying out the case."

Prayuth Petchkhun, a spokesman for the prosecutor's office, said the case is under review because extra investigation was needed. He would not specify what that extra investigation involved.

Thammasat University law professor Pokpong Srisanit said the situation is "not normal" but does appear legal. He noted that with enough bureaucratic maneuvering, some suspects manage to let time run out on charges and have the slate wiped clean.

"There is a problem with Thai law," he said.

Meanwhile, the Thai media, which has followed the case closely, figured he was laying low.

Last year the Bangkok Post said that after paying the settlement in 2012, Vorayuth "has been out of the country or otherwise unable to answer the criminal case against him in the years since."

A few weeks after the article appeared, a photo of Vorayuth was posted online. He was on the beach at a seaside resort south of Bangkok.

While Vorayuth's legal case has been on hold since 2012, his carefree, expensive life has not.

Three months after the accident, Vorayuth was at the Red Bull Singha Race of Champions, staged for the first time in his hometown Bangkok. Smiling in his Red Bull cap at the stadium, surrounded by cousins and friends, a VIP pass dangled from his neck.

More than 120 photos posted on Facebook and Instagram since then, as well as some racing blogs, show Vorayuth visited at least nine countries since Sgt. Maj. Wichean's death. Stops include the Wizarding World of Harry Potter in Osaka, where he posed wearing robes from Hogwarts School's darkest dorm, Slytherin House. He's cruised Monaco's harbor, snowboarded Japan's fresh powder, and celebrated his birthday at Restaurant Gordon Ramsay in London. His friends and cousins posting about him have hundreds of thousands of online followers.

Although his own social media accounts are mostly private, he was tagged @bossrbr more than 60 times, sometimes responding with emojis or comments. Last summer in Japan he posted a 10-second video of sausage and eggs decorated with seaweed eyes, tagging a young relative. His parents responded with a thumbs-up.

His lifestyle—soaking in an Abu Dhabi pool, dining in Nice, France, holding a $10,000 bicycle in Bangkok—is supported by his family's billions.

Vorayuth's grandfather, Chaleo Yoovidhya, grew up in poverty, the son of a duck seller. He was known as a modest, humble man who insisted on privacy. He founded T.C. Pharma in 1956 to import European medicines, but over the decades developed more products, especially drinks sold by the bottle or can.

A few years before Vorayuth was born, Chaleo partnered with an Austrian entrepreneur, Dietrich Mateschitz. They put in $500,000 each to carbonate and globally market T.C. Pharma's caffeine-powered syrupy energy drink popular in Thailand among laborers, taxi drivers and jet-lagged tourists. In 1987, when Vorayuth turned 1, Red Bull Energy Drink went international and his family's fortune boomed.

Red Bull sold more than 6 billion of its iconic slim cans in 2016 in more than 170 countries. It has its own media company, a professional soccer team, race cars and jets. The company sponsors concerts, events and athletes worldwide, all ostensibly pumped up with the sweet drink.

Mateschitz owns 49 percent of the company, the Yoovidhya family 49 percent in a complex licensing agreement with T.C. Pharma. Vorayuth's father Chalerm Yoovidhya, the oldest of 11 siblings, holds the final 2 percent. Red Bull reported more than $6 billion in sales last year. Forbes estimates Chalerm's net worth at $9.7 billion.

As the family's wealth has grown, many of the younger generation have become glamorous socialites, traveling the world to shop, dine and play. The family co-owns the only Ferrari dealership in town, as well as a winery. Three generations gathered regularly for birthdays and anniversaries, and the younger family members also dance and drink in Bangkok's nightclubs.

Vorayuth's legal situation is far from unique.

Last year, the son of a wealthy Thai businessman slammed his Mercedes Benz at high speed into a smaller car, killing two graduate students. His case is still pending in court. In 2010, a 16-year-old unlicensed daughter of a former military officer crashed her sedan into a van, killing nine people. The teen, from an affluent family, was given a two-year suspended sentence and didn't complete community service until last year.

Those cases are markedly different than most deadly car crashes, in which Thais are routinely arrested, prosecuted and sentenced to jail.

In a country where intimate ties between money, power and politics have toppled governments and sparked violent attacks, impunity can be a lightning rod. A billionaire prime minister deposed in 2006 was convicted of corruption, but stays out of the country to avoid going to jail. His sister, who came to power in 2011, was thrown out by a military coup backed by other wealthy elites.

Today Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, a former commander of the Thai Army, says he's committed to rooting out corruption and crime. But the cases of Vorayuth and other elites have bred skepticism.

"It is no wonder people with money and influence think they can avoid facing the legal consequences for causing carnage on the streets," said the Bangkok Post in an editorial last year. "History shows they can."

Today in their small apartment, Pornanan keeps a few photo albums of his brother. In a glass cabinet there's a larger framed portrait.

At first he was angry. Now he's just deeply sad. About his brother. And about a criminal justice system he says runs on a "double standard," one for most people who face their crimes, and one for the elites who don't have to pay the price.

He tries not to think about where the man he calls "Boss" might be, assuming he's out of the country: "I think he does not want to tarnish his reputation."

It remains unclear whether police and prosecutors will do anything.

Last month on Instagram, a friend posted a group shot, guys taking a snowboarding break in the sunshine at Japan's majestic Annapuri ski resort.

"ran into little bull @bossrbr lets catch up tonite dude" says one friend.

"Snow snow snow" chimes in another.

And then Bossrbr: "Wof wof."

'Fearless Girl' statue opposite bull stays through February

In this March 8, 2017, the "Fearless Girl" statue faces Wall Street's charging bull statue in New York. AP

NEW YORK (AP)—The globally popular statue of a young girl will keep staring down Wall Street's famed "Charging Bull" through February 2018 instead of being removed this coming Sunday, the mayor said.

She's "standing up to fear, standing up to power, being able to find in yourself the strength to do what's right," said Democratic Mayor Bill de Blasio, who appeared with the "Fearless Girl" statue Monday on the lower Manhattan traffic island where the two bronze figures face each other.

The mayor said the political turmoil surrounding Republican President Donald Trump makes the endearing child particularly relevant.

"She is inspiring everyone at a moment when we need inspiration," he said.

The 4-foot-tall, 250-pound ponytailed girl in a windblown dress was installed this month to highlight the dearth of women on corporate boards as she stands strong against the 11-foot-tall, 7,100-pound bull. The girl became an instant tourist draw and internet sensation.

On Monday morning, Democratic U.S. Rep. Carolyn Maloney, of New York, led a group of prominent women in front of City Hall to honor the artist, Kristen Visbal, and State Street Global Advisors, the asset management firm that commissioned the work and, with the McCann advertising firm, helped Visbal create her sculpture.

"She was created to bring attention to the courage and unrealized power of women in so many fields, and she has clearly struck a nerve," said Maloney, who is pushing for the statue to become a permanent installation.

Visbal said the positive response to her artwork "renewed my faith in sculpture to make an impact on society, to create a debate the way a good piece of art should."

She has received more than 1,000 emails from India, Denmark, Sweden, Spain and elsewhere, including one from a mother who wanted to wallpaper her daughter's room with the girl's image.

"I see men and women as the ying and yang of society," Visbal said. "They bring different things to the table. They solve problems in a different way. But we need to work together."

"Fearless Girl" will stay in place for another 11 months through an art program of the city's Department of Transportation that manages lower Broadway near Wall Street.

Prosecutors fight Cosby bid to query 2,000 potential jurors

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Prosecutors in Bill Cosby's sex assault case in Pennsylvania objected Monday to defense efforts to prescreen as many as 2,000 potential jurors.

They also said in a court filing that the jury should be selected weeks before the scheduled June 5 trial so jurors can prepare to be sequestered nearly 300 miles away from home. And they challenged defense claims that it will be tough to find people without opinions of the longtime Hollywood icon.

In a sometimes caustic court filing, they called that "a cynical view of the potential jurors in Allegheny County."

"Defendant forecasts that jury selection will take weeks; we are confident that it will not," Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin Steele said, noting that it took just a day to pick jurors for the state attorney general's perjury trial last year.

Cosby, who turns 80 next month, is accused of drugging and molesting a Temple University basketball team manager at his home in 2004, an encounter he calls consensual. He was 66 at the time; Andrea Constand was 30.

Prosecutors had hoped to call a dozen women who have made similar accusations, but the judge will allow just one "prior bad act" witness: a woman who worked for Cosby's agent and said he drugged and assaulted her during a lunch meeting at the Bel-Air Hotel, in Los Angeles, in 1996.

The trial will be held in suburban Philadelphia, where Cosby met with Constand at his estate, but the jury will come from the Pittsburgh area because of pretrial publicity over the past two years. Cosby's appearance at a half-dozen court hearings has drawn a swarm of national and international media.

Defense lawyers have proposed sending a specialized questionnaire to up to 2,000 Allegheny County residents, and to question those who pass muster starting June 5. Prosecutors said Cosby deserves no such "special treatment." They want opening statements to start that day.

The battle over jury selection is just the latest legal maneuvering in the high-profile case. The judge must still decide how much the jury will hear from Cosby's deposition about his long history of extramarital affairs. The next court hearing is scheduled for Monday.

Massive gold coin worth millions stolen from German museum

BERLIN (AP)—Thieves broke into the German capital's Bode Museum before dawn Monday and made off with a massive 100-kilogram (221-pound) gold coin worth millions of dollars, police said.

Police spokesman Stefen Petersen said thieves apparently entered through a window about 3:30 a.m. Monday, broke into a cabinet where the "Big Maple Leaf" coin was kept, and escaped with it before police arrived.

A ladder was found by nearby railway tracks.

The three-centimeter (1.18-inch) thick coin, with a diameter of 53 centimeters (20.9 inches), has a face value of 1 million Canadian dollars ($750,000). By weight alone, however, it would be worth almost $4.5 million at market prices.

Petersen would not comment on whether authorities had surveillance video of the crime, but said police assume more than one person was involved because of the weight of the coin.

The museum says the coin is in the Guinness Book of Records for its purity of 999.99/1000 gold. It has a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II on one side and maple leaves on the other.

It was produced in limited quantities by the Royal Canadian Mint to promote a new line of its Gold Maple Leaf bullion coins in 2007. It has been on display at the Bode Museum, on Berlin's Museum Island, since December 2010.

Berlin museums spokesman Markus Farr said the coin is on loan from a private collection, but would not elaborated.

Detectives specialized in crimes involving art are investigating.

Leonardo's 'Adoration of the Magi' now cleaner, brighter

FLORENCE, Italy (AP)—Leonardo da Vinci's unfinished masterpiece "Adoration of the Magi" has emerged from a six-year restoration cleaner, brighter and with a depth that hasn't been seen for centuries.

Officials at Florence's Uffizi Gallery unveiled the restored work at a ceremony Monday that will kick off a special exhibit running through September pitting Leonardo's work alongside the "Adoration" of Filippo Lippi.

AP

Visitors take pictures of Leonardo da Vinci's "Adoration of the Three Wise Men", returned to the public of the Uffizi museum after 6 years of study and restoration, in Florence, Italy, Monday, March 27, 2017. Painted in 1481, it is one of the most important works of the early Leonardo.

"This is a spectacular recovery of this most important painting by Leonardo," said Uffizi director Eike Shmidt. While Leonardo's "Mona Lisa" and "The Last Supper" are perhaps better appreciated, the Adoration "always was the most mysterious work as well because it was covered with dark layers of dirt, of paint and so on."

Leonardo painted the large, nearly square oil on wood between 1481 and 1482 but left it unfinished after leaving Florence for Milan. It had been commissioned by Augustinian monks for the San Donato a Scopeto church but ultimately ended up in the Medici collection.

The restoration was carried out by a team at the Opificio delle Pietre Dure, a research and conservation institute of the Italian Culture Ministry.

The institute's director, Marco Ciatti, said non-original materials had altered the work's color scheme, its light and shadows, reducing its depth perception. In addition, there were two large cracks in the wooden planks that could have caused damage to the works.

Experts said the restoration uncovered newfound lucidity and profundity in the work, with figures that had previously been hidden now apparent and a "liveliness" of action uncovered.

"This is an extremely cinematographic painting, in fact, and has become such thanks to the cleaning," said Schmidt. "With this painting, we have a really new look into Leonardo da Vinci's mind."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Drake's new CD 'More Life' breaks a new streaming record

NEW YORK (AP)—Drake, who was the most streamed act on Spotify last year, has started 2017 strong—his new album, "More Life," has broken the U.S. record for the number of online streams from a single album in one week. The rapper's 22-track album recorded 385 million streams across all platforms in its first week, beating the previous record holder—Drake. His 2016 album, "Views," had owned the title with 245 million streams until "More Life" showed up on March 18, according to Nielsen Music. "More Life" is Drake's seventh consecutive album to debut at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 albums chart. It had competition from new albums by Ed Sheeran, Rick Ross and the soundtrack for "Beauty and the Beast."

George Lucas gives another $10M to USC for student diversity

NEW YORK (AP)—George Lucas has given another $10 million to the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts to fund the student diversity program he helped establish. The donation was announced Monday by USC, Lucas' alma mater. Last fall, USC established a foundation in Lucas' name to support students from underrepresented communities who qualify for financial support. It was funded with an initial $10 million gift from the George Lucas Family Foundation. Michael Renov, vice dean of academy affairs, said the gift will help USC "recruit storytellers whose voices are underrepresented in cinematic media and whose inclusion benefits all of us."

Houston student dies days after FaceTime with Beyonce

HOUSTON (AP)—A Houston high school student has lost her battle with terminal cancer days after having a dream come true in a talk with Beyonce over a video chat. Alief Independent School District spokeswoman Kimberly Smith says senior Ebony Banks died late Saturday night. The teen's Hastings High School classmates started an online campaign before her death to give her a chance to meet her favorite singer, Beyonce. Banks received a FaceTime call Wednesday from the star. The school gave Banks her diploma during a graduation ceremony in the hospital last week. Students gathered at a candlelight vigil Sunday to remember Banks. Video posted on social media shows students raising candles to Beyonce's "Halo."

Grandma-to-be can't muster enthusiasm she wants to feel

DEAR ABBY: My daughter-in-law, "Eden," is married to my daughter. Eden is now pregnant via artificial insemination. I will never meet the donor and know almost nothing about him. Could this be why I don't have the enthusiasm for this pregnancy that I should have, since the baby will be my first grandchild?

I feel guilty that I'm not excited. I'm wondering if it's because there is no blood connection, but neither would there be if the baby were adopted. Eden is due in a month. We live close by, and I need to generate some enthusiasm. Any suggestions?

GRANDMA-IN-WAITING

DEAR GRANDMA: Yes. Start by doing all the things you would if you WERE excited about this grandchild. Be as participatory as your daughter and daughter-in-law will allow. If you do, while I can't guarantee that you will feel a bond with the baby, your chances of forming one will be greater. And please stop feeling guilty. Relationships take time to build, and this is no exception.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are facing a big decision: whether to move to a better school district for our daughter. The one we're in doesn't rate high, and yes, we can afford to move to a more elite area. So what is holding us back? Our wonderful neighbors!

They are our best friends. Our husbands are close, and it's the same with our kids—even the dogs. We vacation together and take turns carpooling to school in the mornings. They have welcomed my daughter into their home, and ditto for us and their children. Are we fools to walk away from such contentment and love?

HEAVY DECISION IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR HEAVY DECISION: If you and your friends are close for reasons other than geography and convenience, your relationship with them should be a lasting one. However, your daughter's education should come first, and if they are true friends, they will understand why you are making the move.

DEAR ABBY: As someone on a second marriage, may I point something out to your readers? An engagement is not marriage. People need to take a hard look at the person they are choosing to spend the rest of their lives with, and understand that they cannot change another person. Red flags should be addressed DURING THE ENGAGEMENT. That little annoyance will grow and has the potential to blossom into a huge issue.

Counseling can be wonderfully useful, but bear in mind it can take several tries to find a counselor who clicks with you. Take it from me, divorce is horrible and can cause damage that can never really be undone.

EXPERIENCED IN TENNESSEE

DEAR EXPERIENCED: You're right; problems don't solve themselves, and people in love don't always think rationally. However, I hope they will pay attention to your excellent advice because I couldn't have said it better myself.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

DEAR ABBY

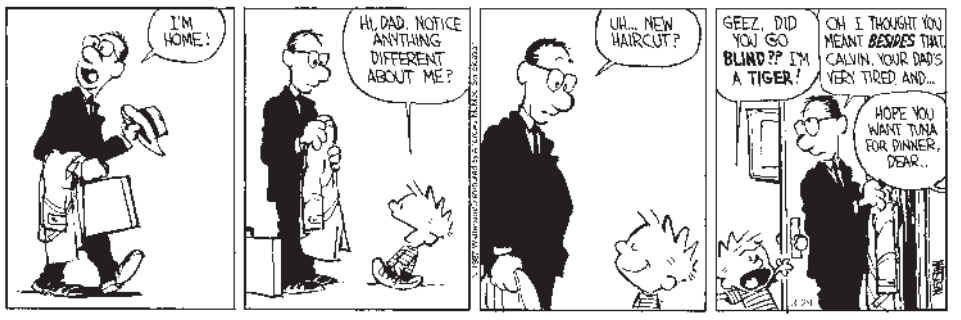
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

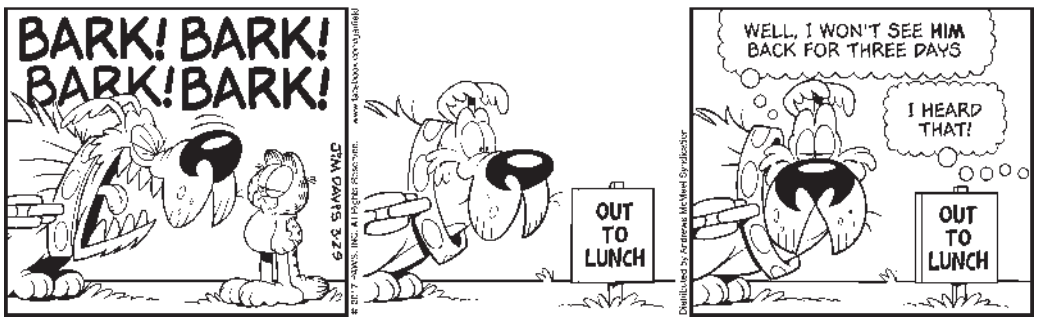
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


I'M HOME!
HI, DAD. NOTICE ANYTHING DIFFERENT ABOUT ME?
UH... NEW HAIRCUT?
GEEZ, DID YOU GO BLIND?? I'M A TIGER!
OH. I THOUGHT YOU MEANT BESIDES THAT. CALVIN, YOUR DAD'S VERY TIRED AND...
HOPE YOU WANT TUNA FOR DINNER, DEAR...

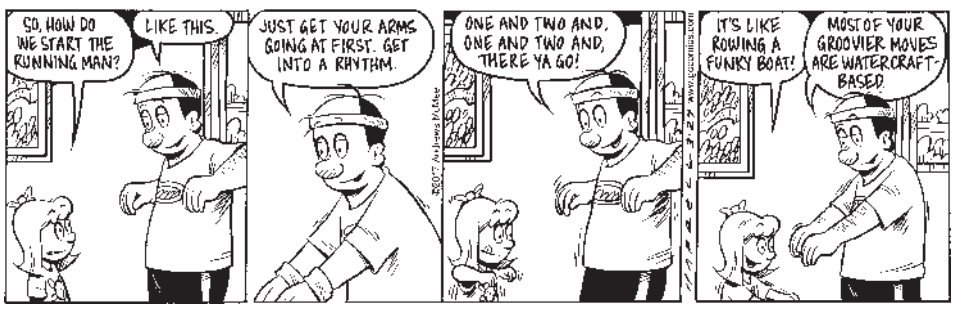
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


SO, HOW DO WE START THE RUNNING MAN?
LIKE THIS.
JUST GET YOUR ARMS GOING AT FIRST. GET INTO A RHYTHM.
ONE AND TWO AND, ONE AND TWO AND, THERE YA GO!
IT'S LIKE ROWING A FUNKY BOAT!
MOST OF YOUR GROOVIER MOVES ARE WATERCRAFT-BASED.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

EXERCISE VIDEO, HUH? OH, LOOK AT MR. FITNESS WITH HIS 6-PACK ABS.
I'VE GOT A 6-PACK. SEE?
WHERE?
I LIKE TO KEEP IT UNWRAPPED IN A CUSHIONY, INSULATED PACKAGE.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "Bow-wow!"
4 Pvt.'s superior
7 Rabbit's title
8 Prepare to drive
10 Justice Kagan
11 Bellowed
13 Hit 1989 song by 33-Across
16 Praise in verse
17 Bridge fees
18 MLB stat
19 Mound
20 Name of 12 popes
21 Inventory
23 Cupcake topping
25 Surround
26 "Phooey!"
27 Hubbub
28 Radiance
30 — Jima
33 Lead singer of Miami Sound Machine
36 Name derived from a person
37 Sidestep
38 Wise ones
39 Adolescent
40 — Moines
41 The whole enchilada

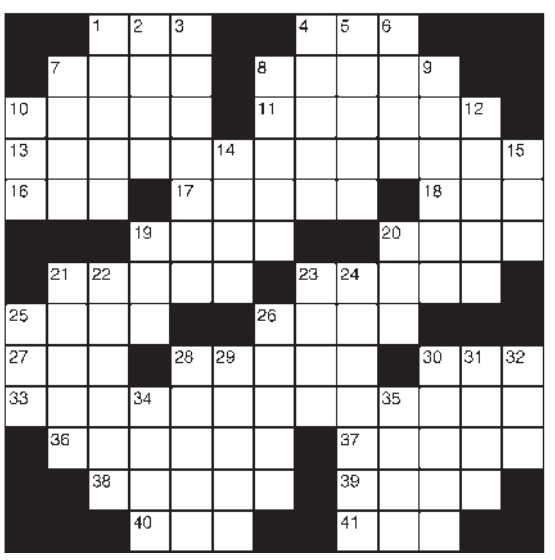
DOWN

1 Mountain crest
2 Nevada city
3 In a tizzy
4 Capital of South Korea
5 Bike components
6 Sod
7 Ran in the wash
8 "The Hobbit" baddie
9 Use a spyhole
10 Swelled head
12 Fix, as software
14 Egg part
15 "— the season ..."
19 Coal scuttle
20 Deep hole
21 Move laterally
22 Girl Scout units
23 Enrages
24 Bach's "Coffee —"
25 Joke
26 Considers
28 Burn slightly
29 19th president
30 "— Pretty"
31 Tip off
32 Toronto's prov.
34 Street
35 Daring Knievel

Solution time: 25 mins.

E	H	I	C		I	A	B		E	L	A	L
D	U	M	A		I	C	U		D	A	D	A
N	E	A	F		A	R	C	H	I	V	E	D
A	R	M	O	I	R	E		A	B	A	S	E
			N	R	A		S	N	L			
C	H	E	E	K		A	R	G	E	N	T	S
P	A				O	B	I			O	I	L
A	N	I	A	D	N	E		O	D	D	L	Y
			L	E	S		O	N	E			
T	E	S	L	A		A	R	A	B		A	N
A	R	T	E	F	A	C	T		U	N	T	O
F	L	A	G		R	H	O		N	O	M	S
T	E	T	E		M	E	N		K	N	E	E

Yesterday's answer 3-29



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Megan Hilty, 36; Lucy Lawless, 49; Amy Sedaris, 56; Eric Idle, 74.

Happy Birthday: Turn your emotions into something creative. Direct your energy wisely and express your opinions with clarity and backup. It's how you present who you are and what you are trying to achieve that will lead to your success this year. Don't back down when you should be standing up and moving forward. Listen and learn as you reach for your ultimate dream. Your numbers are 8, 14, 23, 27, 34, 39, 46.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19)*: You will learn through observation and collaboration. Meetings, travel and educational pursuits are favored. Take care of any persistent health issues that arise and avoid challenges that could result in injury. An emotional situation is best monitored, not confronted. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20)*: You'll feel the tension mount as things heat up around you. Try not to get involved in gossip, rumors or situations that have the potential to make you look bad. Keep your personal thoughts and information to yourself. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20)*: Keep your secrets hidden. Boasting will give other people a chance to bring you down. Play your cards close to your chest and do your best to ensure that you come out on top. Act on your intentions with precision. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22)*: Pitch in and do your part. No one can complain if you are willing to put in an honest effort and do your best to make a difference. Don't let an emotional incident turn into something that is impossible to control. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22)*: Don't get caught up in someone else's dilemma. You've worked hard to get where you are and you need to protect your position and your future. Look inward and stay focused on what will bring you the highest rewards. ✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)*: Show compassion toward your friends, relatives and peers. The way you treat and help others will be judged and referenced in the future. Protect your reputation and you will position yourself for new possibilities and financial gains. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)*: Look at all sides of a situation and adjust your thinking to consider the best way to keep the peace and benefit everyone involved. Taking conservative action in a diplomatic manner will result in unexpected prospects and greater opportunities. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)*: It's okay to show your feelings and express what you want to get out of the different relationships you have with others. Whether it's business or pleasure, your uniqueness will be what attracts attention as well as support. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)*: A personal pick-me-up will bring about emotional, mental and financial improvements. Live in the moment and enjoy the people who share your beliefs. Changes at home will add to your comfort, convenience and happiness. Romance will improve your personal life. ✪✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)*: Say little, listen carefully and avoid getting into a dispute. Avoid joint ventures with people who don't have the same ethics, beliefs or standards as you. Practice moderation and mindfulness and you'll avoid a dispute. ✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)*: Past experiences will help you make wise choices in regard to money, legal and health matters. Listen to your heart as well as your head and you will find the answers you are looking for. Romance will improve your personal life. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20)*: Stay focused on what you do well. Add greater versatility and depth to your skills as you progress. Taking a wider view of things will give you insight into exciting possibilities that you never knew existed. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are responsive, caring and sensitive. You are adaptable and productive.

Eugenia's websites -- eugenialast.com for Ask Eugenia, daily timing and compatibility services, and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

				2				
	5		4		3			
	7	2				3		
	6						7	
8								5
7	9					6	4	1
	2		5	4			8	
	1		7	9			3	
	8	9	6	3	2	5	1	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 3/29

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	8	4	2	6	3	5	7	9
5	3	9	8	1	7	2	6	4
7	2	6	4	9	5	1	3	8
6	9	2	5	4	1	7	8	3
3	1	7	9	8	6	4	5	2
4	5	8	7	3	2	9	1	6
9	4	3	1	5	8	6	2	7
8	7	1	6	2	4	3	9	5
2	6	5	3	7	9	8	4	1

Difficulty level ★★ 3/28

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

DEMONYMS Solution: 9 letters

Y	E	N	B	N	D	D	S	M	A	E	T	A	T	S
R	T	A	R	A	G	E	E	L	I	P	U	P	R	S
T	H	I	R	A	H	I	N	T	A	D	D	E	I	E
N	N	B	N	G	L	A	E	O	N	R	G	O	B	I
U	I	R	A	U	E	U	M	R	T	I	U	P	E	T
O	C	E	O	Z	M	N	G	I	O	E	M	L	P	I
C	N	S	I	M	A	M	T	N	A	F	M	E	P	C
L	A	L	E	N	A	M	O	I	I	N	R	L	N	A
I	E	E	R	I	D	N	B	C	N	S	(E)	A	A	N
B	L	L	N	P	W	I	I	I	I	E	(M)	T	I	A
Y	I	L	L	O	A	C	A	A	A	A	(A)	I	V	D
A	H	A	R	S	U	N	N	N	N	N	(N)	N	I	I
N	C	R	I	E	C	N	I	V	O	R	P	S	L	A
E	A	A	R	M	E	N	I	A	N	A	T	I	O	N
N	N	P	R	E	F	I	X	A	T	I	O	N	B	S

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Add, Argentinean, Armenian, Asian, Bahamian, Bolivian, Canadians, Chilean, Cities, Community, Country, Denote, Ethnic, Foreign, Indian, Latin, Libyan, Minted, Name, Narrow, Nation, Noun, Parallel, People, Persian, Place, Plural, Prefixation, Province, Pupil, Region, Romanian, Serbian, Singular, State, Teams, Tribe, Zambian

Yesterday's Answer: Blades

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 or 24 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) Maintenance
Atleast high school graduate . A valid driver's license. Ability to use efficiently various power and hand tools. Knows how to follow oral written instructions and can communicate efficiently and fluently in both witten and oral form.

(1) Fiberglass Laminator and Fabricator
With Atleast 2 years work related experience. Needs to be physically fit and willing to work flexible time.

Submit Applications To:
AYD SERVICES, INC.
Tel.# (670)235-7011

R3A General Services, LLC
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- (1) Electrical Supervisor– $7.50-$8.00/hr.
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- (5) Mason– $6.55-$6.75/hr.
- (2) General Maintenance $6.55-$6.75/hr.
- (1) Accountant – $6.55 - $7.25/hr.

For more information, please call our office at Kanat Tabla Drive, Saipan MP 96950.
Tel: 670-235-1495 or Cell: 788-1495
or email us at:
arielnvillanueva@gmail.com

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Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Flower Arranger
- Must have at least 3 years experience.
- Able to work flexible hours.

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LSG SKY CHEFS is looking to hire qualified U.S. workers for the following positions:

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(1) Sewing Machine Operator
High School Diploma or general education degree; or one to 2 yrs. related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Submit Applications To:
Pam Pacific Enterprises corp. dba Pena House Boutique/Iridescent Boutique
Tel. (670)235-7270

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(1) Esthetician
With 2-3 years experience willing to work on flexible hours.
THE ROSE EMPIRE CORPORATION
PMB 2153 Box 10002,
Saipan MP 96950

Aquaville Inc.
(1) Tour Coordinator
At least 3 years experience in Assisting Tourist
Can Speak English and Chinese
Contact Person: Adonis Santos
Contact Number: 323-2916 / 323-0102

Danes Construction Corporation
is looking for the following:

(9) Carpenter
(15) Mason
(1) Accounting Technician
(1) Computer Support Technician

Must have 5 years experience & maybe subject for a skill test. Interested applicants may send their application to danes@guam.net

WHATZIT Solution: Pluck up courage

Geotesting, Inc. has an opening for:

One (1) Assistant Soils/Materials Technician
Qualifications: Associate's degree in Engineering (may be foreign educational equivalent) and three (3) months experience as a soils/materials technician (any job title).
Duties: Assists in performing laboratory and field testing on soils, concrete, aggregates, bituminous mixtures, and other related materials. Tests will include, but are not limited to, grain size analysis, compaction, liquid limit and plasticity index, bearing ratio, specific gravity, sand equivalent, and concrete compressive and tensile strength testing. Assists in performing test borings and obtaining subsurface soil samples. Observes excavation and back filling. Assists in performing tests for design mix for concrete and bituminous mixes. Assists in performing infiltration tests in the soils. Assists in field samplings of soils, concrete and bituminous mixtures.

If interested, send resume to Geotesting, Inc. by email to geotesting@geoguam.com or by fax at 670-235-5000. Proof of qualifications and police clearance required within one week of acceptance to hire.

GPPC, INC. Job Opening:

Civil Engineering Technicians (02) $6.60/hr. - $7.50/hour.
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Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5 years experience as Heavy Equipment Mechanic. With knowledge how to diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automobiles, hydraulic, and pneumatic equipment, such as cranes, bulldozers, graders, excavators, trucks and conveyors, typically used in constructions.

All of the above positions must be able to work flexible time. Interested applicants may apply at GPPC, Inc. office located at As Perdido, Saipan. A copy of police clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills, testing maybe required. GPPC, INC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Closing Date: April 04, 2017

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- Works well under pressure

Interested candidates may submit their resume to:
employment671@gmail.com

JAR DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION
Now accepts application for

(2) Mason
(2) Carpenter
(1) Painter

Applicants must have at least 5 years experience in the construction field. Has a good moral character, skilled and can follow work assignment without supervision, can work independently in a flexible time. Qualified applicants may submit application with resume and credential to
Jar Design and Construction
P.O. Box 504249 CK, Saipan, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Clinical Embryologist
Must have 2 years lab experience, plus experience in clinical embryology.
Salary Negotiable.
Call Karen at 322-0419

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
(1) Cad Operator:
Required Bachelor's Degree and 5 years of experience. Proficiency in AutoCAD 2015, Google Sketchup 2016 and Microsoft Office.

Respond to N15 Architects by Email to
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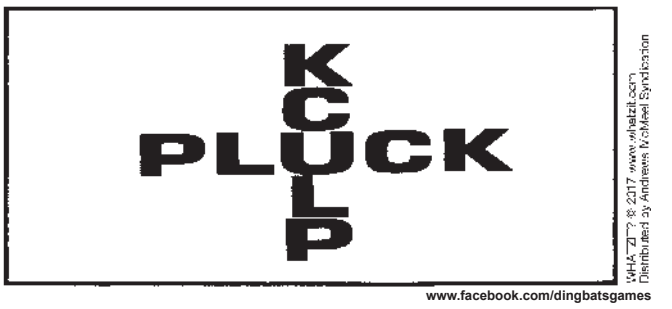

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Find today's solution in classified section

Leonard scores 25 as Spurs dismantle ailing Cavs

SAN ANTONIO (AP)— The Cavaliers acknowledged having heavy legs, yet there is something far weightier on the minds of the defending NBA champions.

Cleveland is in the midst of one of its worst stretches this season and there is little time to fix it.

Kawhi Leonard scored 25 points and the San Antonio Spurs dismantled the ailing Cavs 103-74 on Monday night in a much-anticipated showdown that turned into a major letdown for Cleveland.

"The way we've been struggling, (the Spurs are) the last team that you want to play," said LeBron James, who was fine after taking an elbow to the neck. "A well-oiled machine like this, they exploit everything that you're not doing well at that point in time of the season and right now we're not playing good basketball."

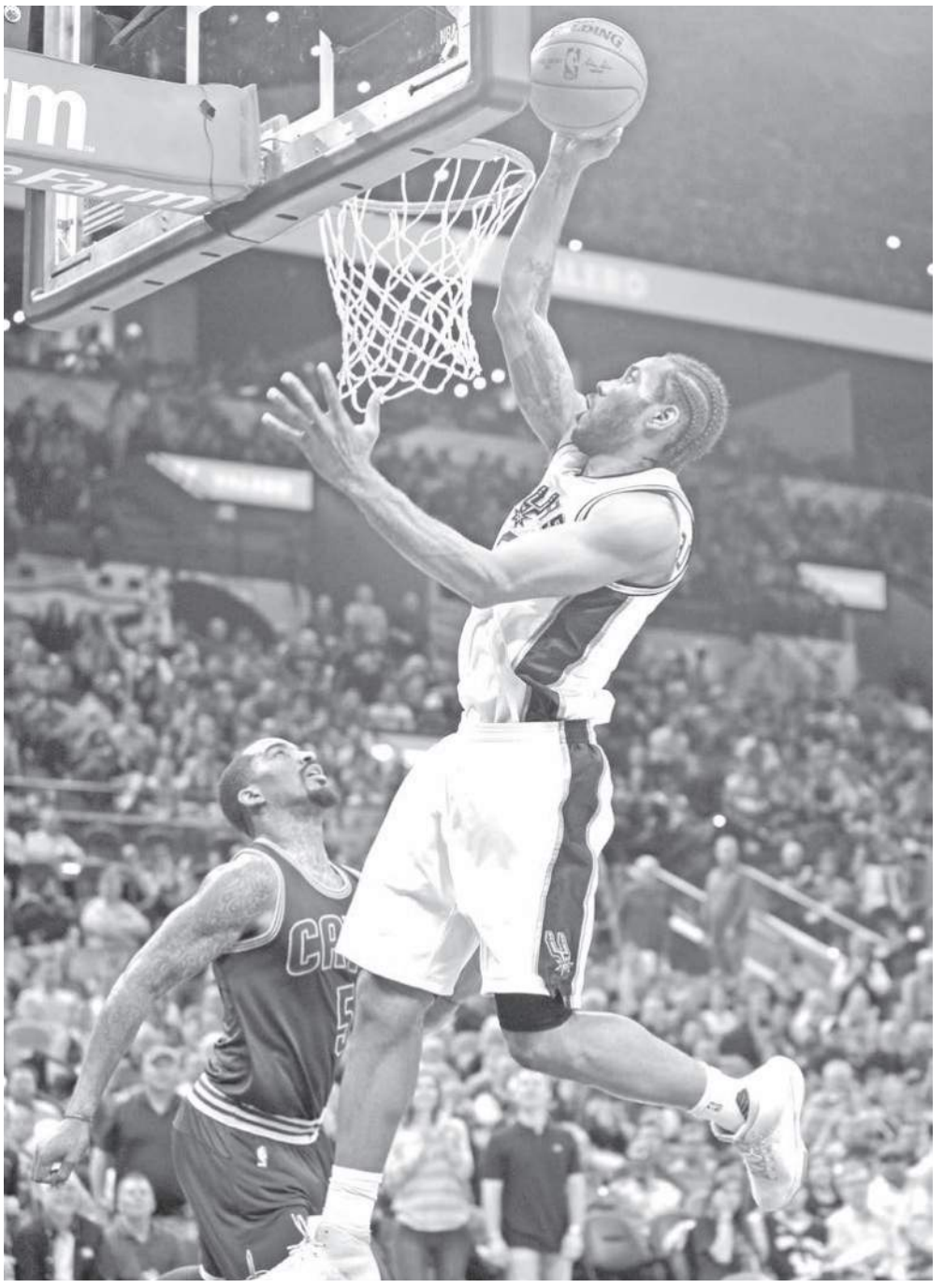
James, who finished with 17 points, eight rebounds and eight assists in 29 minutes, said he will play Thursday at Chicago.

Cleveland (47-26) dropped its second in a row, set a season low for points and fell a half-game behind Boston (48-26) for the top seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs. The Cavaliers have nine games remaining, all against teams in the East, including a visit to Boston on April 5.

James said the standings "always matter," but playing more consistently is far more important and he refused to blame injuries or an arduous schedule for the team's troubles.

"It matters more that we're playing better basketball than where we're at," he said. "If that results in us having the No. 1 seed, the No. 2 seed, 3 or whatever the hell it is, we need to play better basketball. That's what it comes down to."

What Cleveland is seeking, the Spurs have already found.



AP

San Antonio Spurs forward Kawhi Leonard dunks during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Cleveland Cavaliers, Monday, March 27, 2017, in San Antonio.

Thunder 92, Mavericks 91

In Dallas, Russell Westbrook hit a pull-up jumper with seven seconds left and Oklahoma City erased a 13-point deficit in the final four minutes to beat Dallas.

Westbrook scored 37 points, including 16 in the fourth quarter, with 13 rebounds and 10 assists for his third straight triple-double and 37th of the season.

The Thunder finished on a 14-0 run, capped when they gained possession on a replay reversal with 13 seconds to go. Westbrook then hit the decisive shot from just beyond the free throw line over Wesley Matthews.

Westbrook scored 12 of the final 14 points.

Harrison Barnes missed a long 3-pointer just before the buzzer, clinching the first losing season for the Mavericks (31-42) since 1999-2000, the season that owner Mark Cuban bought the team with Dirk Nowitzki in his second year.

The Thunder (42-31) won for the seventh time in nine games since a four-game losing streak that matched a season high.

Knicks 109, Pistons 95

In New York, Derrick Rose scored 27 points, Kristaps Porzingis had 25 and New York handed Detroit another damaging defeat.

Carmelo Anthony added 21 points for the Knicks after missing two games with a sore left knee. New York snapped a five-game losing streak and avoided playoff elimination.

Marcus Morris scored 20 points but the Pistons dropped their fourth straight and fell 1+ games behind Miami for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. Ish Smith had 15 points while former starting point guard Reggie Jackson didn't play.

Andre Drummond had 10 points and 15 rebounds for the Pistons, who have lost seven of eight.

Raptors 131, Magic 112

In Toronto, DeMar DeRozan scored 36 points and Cory Joseph had 15 points and 13 assists as Toronto defeated Orlando for its sixth straight victory.

DeRozan, selected the Eastern Conference player of the week earlier in the day, scored 18 in the first quarter. Joseph added six rebounds and Jonas Valanciunas had 17 points and nine rebounds for the Raptors (45-29).

Elfrid Payton had 22 points and nine assists for Orlando (27-47). Evan Fournier added 20 points, and Nikola Vucevic had 12 points and 15 rebounds.

It was the first game between the teams since the Raptors traded Terrence Ross to the Magic for Serge Ibaka in February. Ross finished with 17 points, while Ibaka had 16 points and seven rebounds.

Kings 91, Grizzlies 90

In Sacramento, Darren Collison scored 23 points and made two crucial free throws in the closing seconds to help Sacramento hand slumping Memphis its fourth consecutive loss.

The victory was the second straight for the Kings, both over playoff-bound teams. Sacramento rallied from an 18-point deficit in the final five minutes to defeat the Los Angeles Clippers on Sunday.

Mike Conley had 22 points and nine assists for the Grizzlies, and Zach Randolph added 17 points and 15 rebounds. Memphis has lost nine of 13 and sits in seventh place in the Western Conference.

Randolph hit two free throws with 32.9 seconds left, giving the Grizzlies a 90-89 lead. But then Collison made both free throws to put the Kings up by one with 5.7 seconds left. Randolph missed an open 3-pointer with a second left that would have won it for Memphis.

The Grizzlies played without leading rebounder and second-leading scorer Marc Gasol, who missed his second consecutive game with a strained left foot.

Buddy Hield had 14 points for the Kings, and Willie Cauley-Stein contributed 12 points and nine rebounds.

Jazz 108, Pelicans 100

In Salt Lake City, Rudy Gobert had 20 points, 19 rebounds and five blocks to lead Utah over New Orleans.

Rodney Hood scored 20 points, Joe Ingles added 19 and George Hill chipped in with 17 as that Jazz trio combined to make a dozen 3-pointers. Utah (45-29) swept the season series 3-0 after dominating from the perimeter for four quarters.

Anthony Davis had 36 points and 17 rebounds for New Orleans, which played its second consecutive game without injured center DeMarcus Cousins (sprained ankle). Jrue Holiday scored 19, but the Pelicans (31-43) lost for only the third time in nine games.

Day wants to play Masters, depending on mother's prognosis

AVONDALE, La. (AP)— PGA Tour star Jason Day expects to arrive in Augusta, Georgia, on Friday to start practicing for the Masters, but said he could pull still out of the season's first major, depending on his mother's prognosis following surgery for lung cancer last week.

"Obviously, I'm still nervous because we're still waiting to see ... if it has spread or not," said Day, who spoke Monday on a video conference set up by organizers of the PGA Tour's Zurich Classic in late April. "From there, we have to kind of come up with a game plan whether to go chemo—a form of chemo radiation— or something else.

"It's still kind of a bit of an emotional time for me," added Day, whose father, Alvin, died of cancer when he was 12. "Obviously, I've been hanging out with my mom a bit and seeing her and she's recovering well. She's a tough lady, but it's hard because I look at her and she's on the pain killers and all that stuff, what she needs to do to recover ... but I can't help but think of my dad when I see her in that situation."

The world's third-ranked golfer revealed that his mother, Dening, has cancer after withdrawing from the Dell Technologies Match Play in Austin, Texas, last Wednesday. Day has said the initial diagnosis came in Australia at the beginning of this year and that she had scheduled surgery in Columbus, Ohio, late last week.

Day said Monday that doctors deemed the surgery successful, and now the family awaits results of tests to see if cancer is present in Dening Day's lymph nodes.

"My mom told me not to worry about it," Day said. "It's hard to do that. It's easy to say ... but it's really, really difficult. So currently I'm scheduled to play Augusta ... but if things don't come back the way we want them, I don't know what's going to happen."

Day said he "hasn't touched a golf club at all" in the days since joining his joining his mother in Ohio last week.

"It's very, very difficult to even think about playing golf when a loved one is going through such a traumatic experience," Day said. "Once I get past this initial stage, hopefully I'll find some balance and I'll be able to kind of move on and really focus on getting my game back.

"Unfortunately, I'm human. I like to feel like I'm always on it, I'm always ... ready to go and trying to compete and I want to get back to that stage, but sometimes it's very, very difficult."

Day also is scheduled to participate in the Zurich Classic, which runs from April 27-30 and has changed to an unusual format featuring 80 two-player teams, with player picking their own partners. Teams will alternate shots in the first and third rounds and play best ball in the second and final rounds.

Day joked that he was enthusiastic about the new format as soon as Rickie Fowler agreed to be his teammate. He added that, as much as he respects tradition, golf needs to do a better job capturing younger viewers.

"Golf is kind of in a limbo stage right now. We've got to somehow be able to keep it traditional but also add some format play that makes it interesting and makes people want to watch the PGA Tour on a regular basis," Day said. "This is kind of the first step in a direction that potentially could change the way we look at traditional stroke-play events."

The pairing of Day and Fowler will make them favorites at the par-72 TPC Louisiana outside New Orleans. Other teams of note include Justin Rose with Henrik Stenson; Branden Grace with fellow South African Louis Oosthuizen; Bubba Watson with J.B. Holmes; Justin Thomas with Bud Cauley, who both played golf for Alabama; and Jason Dufner and Patton Kizzire, who played for Auburn.

NFL owners approve Raiders' move to Las Vegas

PHOENIX (AP)—Sometime in the not distant future, they will become the Las Vegas Raiders.

Until then, likely in 2020, Mark Davis' team belongs to Oakland. Well, sort of.

NFL owners approved the Raiders' move to Las Vegas 31-1 at the league meetings Monday. Miami was the lone dissenter. Davis insisted the club his father, Hall of Fame owner Al Davis, built into a champion—in Oakland and Los Angeles - should still be considered a part of the Bay Area community.

"I wouldn't use the term lame duck," Davis insisted. "We're still the Raiders and we represent Raider Nation.

"There will be disappointed fans, and it's important for me to talk to them to explain why and how."

As he does so, he also can address what is ahead for a team that, on the field, clearly is on the rise. Yet, questions abound how much support the Raiders can possibly retain in what is now a temporary home.

"My emotions are mixed," said coach Jack Del Rio, a Bay Area native. "While I'm sad for family and friends and fans in the Oakland area, I also recognize the tremendous opportunity going forward for our organization. That being said, my mission remains the same. To lead this team here and now. Players and coaches need to understand their defined roles. We all need to bring positive energy everyday as we focus on things that we can control."

What they can't control is community reaction in a place where devotion to the Raiders during their Oakland years—they spent 1982-94 in Los Angeles—has been admirable. Even during all the losing between their last Super Bowl appearance, for the 2002 season, and their next winning record, which came last year, the Black Hole gang has been dedicated.

"All the Raiders fans my age, no way you can do it," said Ivan Davis, a fan of the team for a half-century. "Anyone who lived through the first one will not support them. The older Raiders fans, you lost them forever. The ones who gave their life blood to you, you lost them forever."

There will be new fans, of course, in a new locale, a place no one imagined the NFL venturing to just a few years ago. But with their $1.7 billion stadium not to be completed before 2020, the Raiders have three seasons to fill playing elsewhere.

AP

In this April 28, 2016, file photo, Oakland Raiders owner Mark Davis, center, meets with Raiders fans after speaking at a meeting of the Southern Nevada Tourism Infrastructure Committee in Las Vegas. NFL owners approved the Raiders' move to Las Vegas on Monday morning, March 27, 2017, at the league meetings.

"We have two more years of lease options for Oakland right now," Davis said. "If the fans would like us to stay there, we'd love to be there for that and possibly talk to them about extending it for maybe 2019 as well, and try to bring a championship back to Oakland."

The likelihood of the East Bay welcoming the Raiders for a third season at the aging Coliseum they share with the Athletics—the only such NFL/MLB arrangement remaining—isn't high. Mayor Libby Schaaf has accused Davis and the league of not "manning up," and other legislators have mentioned finding ways to void the two years of stadium options the Raiders have negotiated.

Davis said any season ticket holders who have already paid for next season will get full refunds if they seek them.

While 2019 is not nearly upon us, Davis needs a concrete plan for that season, including finding a training facility as well as a stadium.

There are other potential hang-ups that could slow construction of the Las Vegas stadium, which doesn't have a definite site yet.

Las Vegas stepped up with $750 million in public money, and Bank of America is giving Davis a $650 million loan. It's conceivable, if highly improbable, that snags will hit in those areas.

Interestingly, one segment that will profit from the move: Raiders employees. There is no income tax in Nevada, while California's is among the highest in the nation.

Meanwhile, league reservations about relocating a franchise to a city built on gambling have disappeared.

"The existing size of Las Vegas, the diversification and the growth that it has undergone over the last 20 years, combine to make it a mid-sized market today," said league executive Eric Grubman, the NFL's point man on stadium projects, "but one that is exhibiting significantly above average growth. Those things in combination, its current size with its above average growth, combined to give the rest of the ownership confidence.

Blunt and sarcastic, Arena relaxes US after Klinsmann

PANAMA CITY (AP)—Alejandro Bedoya missed a goal in training, and Bruce Arena wanted to make sure the midfielder knew he noticed.

"He threatened to chop my man bun off," Bedoya said, smiling. "That's the kind of grief I get around here."

Humor has returned to the U.S. national team since Arena replaced Jurgen Klinsmann as coach in November, following losses in the first two games in the final round of World Cup qualifying. In the first competitive match of Arena 2.0, the U.S. responded with a 6-0 rout of Honduras on Friday, and the Americans could even their record quickly with a win at Panama on Tuesday night.

A member of the U.S. National Soccer Hall of Fame who coached the national team from 1998-2006, Arena wanted to quickly put aside worries the Americans would fail to qualify for an eighth straight World Cup. He turned over staff, tore up rules and defined players' roles during his first four months. He discarded Klinsmann's curfew, eliminated the prohibition on meetings with agents at the team hotel, limited training sessions to one per day and allowed the support staff to sit in on video analysis sessions with players.

"Be on time and be respectful. Those are the rules," he said Monday. "If it's my job to control them all day, then I don't think we have a chance, and I'm basically not interested in doing it. I'd just open up a preschool somewhere."

If not quite chaos under Klinsmann, there was constant uncertainty. Arena brought his own brand of Brooklyn bluntness back to the job, a self-confidence boosted by five NCAA titles at Virginia and five Major League Soccer championships with D.C. United and the LA Galaxy.

"If I was coaching college today I'd be fired, because there's too many rules," he said. "In my days there was nothing wrong with having a beer with one of your players."

Veteran players say Arena is a steady presence, unchanged through the years.

"I think we're all surprised by the sarcasm. That's Bruce. It's great. It keeps you on your toes. He's very tough to impress, and all of that hasn't changed," goalkeeper Tim Howard said. "If you get a 'pretty good' from Bruce, you should feel like you're on top of the world, because that's all you get."

Klinsmann was a star forward on West Germany's World Cup championship team in 1990 and coached Germany to the 2006 World Cup semifinals. A resident of California since 1998 where he lives with his American wife, he understands both the challenges of raising the sport's level in the U.S. and the high-level training techniques he learned as a player at Inter Milan, Tottenham, Bayern Munich and other big European clubs.

Klinsmann replaced Bob Bradley in 2011 and coached the U.S. to the 2013 CONCACAF Gold Cup title and the round of 16 in the following year's World Cup. But the Americans were shocked by Jamaica in the 2015 Gold Cup semifinals and struggled in qualifying for the 2018 World Cup.

"We had lost our way in some ways," said U.S. captain Michael Bradley, Bob's son, who made his national team debut under Arena 11 years ago. "I think Bruce has just done a very good job of coming in and being very clear with how we're going to do things, with what he wants us to be about, on the field, off the field, and I think the group has responded in a really good way."

According to Bradley, Arena re-established "what we emphasize, the group, the mentality, the identity, the spirit."

"A lot of us felt like over this past stretch some of those things had started to drop a little bit," Bradley said.

National teams are far different than clubs, where coaches preside over their players for roughly 10 months a year. National teams come together for a week or so at a time several times a year, then gather for soccer's major championships.

Arena traveled for one-on-one meetings with many players to get his message across, and when players gathered last week he brought in Tom Perrin, a performance coach and sports psychologist who has worked with him since they were together at Virginia.

"He works in the NBA," Arena said. "And you think we got problems?"

As much as tactics, a mental adjustment was required.

"The whole week he was talking to the players, talking about how there's 24, whatever, different personalities, egos in the room, and how do we make it work," Bedoya said. "I think that's the most important thing, to put egos aside and know that we're all here for one sole reason, and that's to get to the end goal, to the World Cup."

Relaxation helped.

Players were on edge under Klinsmann, unsure where they stood, many trying to please the coach rather than focusing on their tasks. Klinsmann emphasized repeatedly that players in MLS should want to go to Europe, that those on small—a and mid-level European clubs should not be satisfied until they were regulars for bigger teams.

Coaches: Carolina Final Four advantage to fade after tipoff

Coaches for Oregon, South Carolina and Gonzaga concede Roy Williams and his North Carolina players have an advantage when it comes to knowing how to deal with the spotlight during Final Four week.

They also don't think it will matter once the games begin.

"You can play in the national championship game nine years in a row. If you go the 10th time, you're nervous before that ball goes up in the air. There's no such thing as not being nervous for a big game," South Carolina's Frank Martin said Monday during a teleconference with reporters.

"What I do think is a huge advantage for Roy, his players, staff members, everyone at the university, is having been through it as recently as last year. They're fresh on the preparation, on the things to expect, what's coming. That way they can better manage their times, their days, to eliminate any distractions that can prevent them from being prepared for the game itself."

South Carolina (26-10) and Gonzaga (36-1) will be making their Final Four debuts when they meet in the first national semifinal Saturday at University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, Arizona. Oregon is as much a first-timer as those two. The Ducks haven't made it this far since winning the 1939 title.

Williams will be coaching in the Final Four for the ninth time, including five appearances with Carolina. The Tar Heels (31-7) play Oregon (33-5) in the second semifinal.

AP

Florida forward Justin Leon (23) and South Carolina guard Duane Notice (10) scramble for a loose ball during the second half of the East Regional championship game of the NCAA men's college basketball tournament, Sunday, March 26, 2017, in New York.

North Carolina lost to Villanova in last year's championship game in Houston. Three of its starters from that 77-74 loss are back, and so are seven other players.

Basketball is only part of the Final Four experience. There are team activities, lots of media commitments and constant attention.

Oregon coach Dana Altman said he spoke on the phone with old coaching friends Lon Kruger and Mike Montgomery to gain some insight on how to balance basketball with everything else.

"We want to try to help our players as much as possible and make them as comfortable as possible, try to get the routine the same," Altman said. "This is a bigger stage. Our guys are aware of that."

Williams said he wouldn't expect players from any of the teams to have difficulty adjusting to the environment.

Hedges not hedging on Padres' future

PEORIA, Ariz. (AP)— Out of the playoffs for a dark decade, the San Diego Padres are hoping a core of up-and-coming players can help brighten the future.

Among them is catcher Austin Hedges, who intends to stick around in the majors this time.

Hedges hit .326 with 21 home runs in 82 games at Triple-A El Paso last season. The Chihuahuas, led by other youngster, won the Pacific Coast League championship.

"I definitely learned a lot about myself," Hedges said Monday. "I learned how to win, too. It was a great ballclub, a great group of guys. A lot of them are here so it will be an exciting year for us."

Defense was never the issue for Hedges, 24, a second-round draft pick in 2011 . In his first shot at the big leagues in 2015, he threw out 33 percent of attempted base-stealers.

But he hit .168 with three homers in 56 games, and so last year the Padres went with veteran Derek Norris and sent Hedges back to the minors so that he could play every day.

Carlos Asuaje hit .321 in Triple-A, but is going back there as he's blocked by second baseman Ryan Schimpf. Hunter Renfroe, who will be San Diego's right fielder, hit 30 homers at El Paso, was called up and homered four times for the Padres in 35 at-bats. Outfielder Alex Dickerson also figures to be a starter for the big club once he has recovered from a back injury.

"I hope we can keep a lot of these guys around for a lot of years to come," Hedges said.

Hedges' personal performance and that of his teammates has led to optimism—never in short supply at any spring training camp. But the Padres are coming off a last-place finish in the NL West and their sixth straight losing season.

A hamstring injury kept Hedges out for a week in mid-March, but he's back and ready to go, batting .278 in the spring. He didn't play Monday in the Cactus League game against Seattle because he was catching for veteran Jered Weaver in a minor league game earlier in the day.

PAIRE

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CO-ED U12 MP United 6, Matansa 3

MP United kept the top spot in the division after defeating Matansa last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

MP United now has a 4-2-1 mark, just slightly ahead of Kanoa-1 (4-1-1). Garrett Weaver and Andrew Chung drilled two goals apiece for MP United, which drew one each from Cody Shimizu and Ryan Pangilinan.

The division-leading team got off to a good start, posting a 5-2 lead after the first half. Chung made both his goals in the opening frame with his first registered in the 24th minute and the second four minutes later. Earlier in the 25th minute, Shimizu made it to the board.

Matansa, on the other hand, got one goal each from Alex Megino (fourth minute) and Chanyang Woo (26th) to keep MP United within striking distance before surrendering two more goals late in the first half. Weaver scored the last two goals for MP United in the final two minutes of the first half, while Pangelinan logged the team's lone goal in the second (53rd). Matansa's third and last goal came from Philip Megino in the 43rd minute.

With the loss, Matansa is still in fourth place in the five-team field as it dropped to a 1-0-4 card.

Kanoa-1 17, Kanoa-2 2

In the other division game Kanoa-1 showed no mercy to sister team Kanoa-2.

Sean Gil led Kanoa-1's demolition of Kanoa-2 after firing four goals. Five other Kanoa-1 players scored multiple goals, while Ruben Guerrero nailed the pair of shots for Kanoa-1, which has yet to notch a single win in six games.

AKIMARU

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Akimaru also set a personal best time as his previous record read at 18:51.48.

The SSC swimmer made it 10-for-10, as he also earned PBTs in his nine other races. Akimaru's other PBTs were registered in 200m butterfly (2:30.39/ from 2:39.80); 100m butterfly (1:03.21/1:03.99); 100m breaststroke (1:14.20/1:16.42); 50m butterfly (28.19 seconds/29.84 seconds); 400m freestyle (4:26.15/4:49.45); 200m freestyle (2:05.55/2:08.71); 200m individual medley (2:24.24/2:26.90); 50, freestyle (25.83 seconds/26.33 seconds); and 100m freestyle (56.86 seconds/57.31 seconds).

Meanwhile, six other swimmers joined the high-point race in the boys 15 to 16 age group with Manhoben's Santiago Poppe coming in at fourth place with his 56 points and followed by SSC's David Boyer (51), Kanai (43), Pohnpei Swim Club's Kaleb Boylston (25), and Manhoben's Miguel Jugo (24) and Gray Harvey (17).

In the girls 15 to 16 age group, Manhoben's Mineri Gomez and Palau's Roylin Akiwo were tied for first place after gaining 84 points each, while Tsunami Saipan's Kathrine Illahi was the runner-up after scoring 21 markers.

In the 17-and-over division, Palau and Pohnei spit the top honors with Osisang Chilton winning the girls field and Kaleo Kihleng prevailing in the boys category.

Kaleo was way ahead of his opponents as he collected 72 points. Dolphin Club Saipan's Ray Alvarez tallied 28 points to place second, while his teammate Jay Igisaiar rounded out the Top 3 after making 20 markers. The rest of the participants in the over 17 division were from Dolphin Club with Sonny Holandez finishing at fourth with his 17 points, Jerrod Calvo (12) at fifth, Peter Perez (9) at sixth, and Michael Hidalgo (8) at ninth.

In the girls division, Osisang won a close fight against Tsunami Saipan's Angel De Jesus, 88-82. Dolphin Club's Gammilie Eugenio was at distant third after posting 17 points, while her teammates Abby Perez (11), Yulia Aleksenko (8), and Andrea Carr (8) rounded out the field.

Dolphin Club, SSC, and Tsunami Saipan swimmers raced against Palau, Guam, and Pohnpei bets for three days (March 23 to 25) at the Marpi pool and results of the other age group contests will be reported in *Saipan Tribune's* Thursday issue.

LITTLE

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top of the sixth inning. The Little Legals closer also scored four runs, a single, and a double. Kaipo Dikito contributed two runs off a 2-for-4 performance at the plate.

The Braves lost the match as they hit the board only in the third and fourth inning off Taisei Desebel's RBI double and Angelo Igitol's RBI triple.

Gunner Sablan pitched for the Little Legals and had six strikeouts, while Delbert relieved him in the fifth inning with the latter fanning out four batters and giving up only one hit.

In the Falcons-Ol'Aces tiff, Jonathan Renguul pitched in no relief for the former and threw a two-hitter in four innings. Renguul struck out nine batters, including the Ol'Aces' first three at the top of the order at the bottom of fourth to cap his outstanding work on the mound. Renguul also scored three runs and two RBIs on a 2-for-4 at bat.

Achilles Evangelista added three RBIs on a 2-for-3 showing at the plate for the Falcons, while Chris Gonzales made three RBIs, too, along with three runs after hitting 3-for-3 at the plate.

Tyler Taitano and Tristan Rogolifoi recorded the only two hits for the hapless Ol'Aces with both of them registering a single. However, that was it for them and the rest of the Ol'Aces, as they never made it to scoring position against the Falcons' solid defense and pitching.

In the Comets-Bank of Saipan game, the match also ended after only four innings with the defending champions securing the victory via 10-run mercy rule after scoring five runs at the top of the fourth and forcing their foes to a 1-2-3 inning at the bottom.

Jason Reyes gave up only two hits in four innings and earned six strikeouts. With him on the mound and his teammates also holding their ground on defense, Bank of Saipan reached second base only once, while the other runner was beaten to second at the bottom of the fourth inning as the Comets ended the one-sided match with a double play.

On offense, Alvin Hocog paced the Comets as he was 3-for-3 at bat and registered three runs and two RBIs. Reyes added two runs.

38th Annual Saipan Swim Club Ocean Swim

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Saipan Swim Club head coach Jacoby Winkfield briefs swimmers on the course in last Sunday's 38th Annual SSC Ocean Swim held in the waters near Naked Fish in Susupe.

Swimmers head out to the course.

Saipan Swim Club and Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan members pose for a photo after completing their races.

Swimmers wait for the start of the race.

Saipan Swim Club's Jinie Thompson, right, and Palau's Lolmei Uong pose for a photo after crossing the finish line together.

Two swimmers head to the shore to finish the race.

Swimmers rush to the waters near Naked Fish in Susupe

Swimmers in the 9 to 10 age group run from the starting line.

Leonard scores 25 as Spurs dismantle ailing Cavs
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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Saipan Swim Club's Kento Akimaru does the last lap of the 100m butterfly event during last Friday's competition in the 2017 SSC International Meet at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

Akimaru dominates

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan Swim Club's Kento Akimaru was the runaway winner of the high-point award in the boys 15 to 16 competition in last week's 2017 SSC International Meet held at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

The 16-year-old swimmer topped all the events he competed in to collect 90 points, more than 20 markers ahead of runner-up and fellow SSC member Christian Villacrusis (69) and Manhoben Swim Club's Tanner Poppe (63).

Akimaru started his domination in his age group last Thursday when he defeated Palau's Keemo Kanai in the exhausting 1,500m freestyle race. The Marianas High School student clocked in at 17:59.95, finishing the 30-lap race about four minutes faster than Kanai (21:59.77).

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Little Legals tops Braves; Falcons, Comets prevail

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Little Legals, Falcons, and Comets dominated their respective opponents in the Major division of the 2017 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

The defending champions Comets shut down Bank of Saipan, 12-0, while the Falcons also blanked the Docomo Ol'Aces in similar scores, and the Little Legals downed the Braves, 10-2.

Delbert Sablan powered the Little Legals to the easy victory after going 4-for-4 at bat, which he highlighted with a two-run homer at the

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Little Legals runner heads to first base during their game against the Braves in the Majors division of the 2017 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

Paire, Southern United win in girls U15 league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Paire Football Club and Southern United FC earned contrasting victories in the girls U15 division of the 2017 NMIFA Youth Spring League last Saturday at the Francisco Mendiola Sablan Middle School Field.

In the curtain-raiser, Southern whipped Matansa, 5-0, to gain its first win in five games. Keisha Deleon Guerrero helped Southern ease past Matansa after scoring a hat trick, while Marinel Joy Falamlimpa and Christina Atalig made the two other goals for the team.

Deleon Guerrero drew first blood for Southern with her shot in the 14th minute, while Falamlimpa gave the squad a 2-0 lead after finding the back of the net in the 31st. Atalig then opened the scoring for Southern in the second half with her conversion in the 42nd minute, while Deleon Guerrero closed out the one-sided game with back-to-back goals.

With Matansa failing to counter and absorbing its fourth loss against one victory, it dropped to the bottom of the team standings in the seven-squad field, joining TanHoldings at the cellar.

Paire moved up to fourth place with its 2-0-3 win-draw-loss mark following a 2-1 triumph over TanHoldings last weekend.

Kiana Camacho knocked in the pair of goals for Paire, while TanHoldings got its lone goal from Mary Joy Aniana.

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
TanHoldings, left, and Paire players nudge each other as they battle for possession during the first half of their girls U15 division game in the NMIFA youth league last Saturday at the Francisco Mendiola Sablan Middle School Field.